



THE TIMES

THURSDAY OCTOBER 11 1984

20p

THE TIMES Tomorrow

From the pulpit
Bernard Levin on the
sermon Britain
needs from the
Prime Minister
Crude threat
Will an onshore
oil bonanza spoil
England's green
and pleasant land?
1997 and counting
A Special Report on
Hongkong as it faces
being handed back
to China
Bella donna
Suzy Menkes reports
on the latest
fashions from Milan

Portfolio

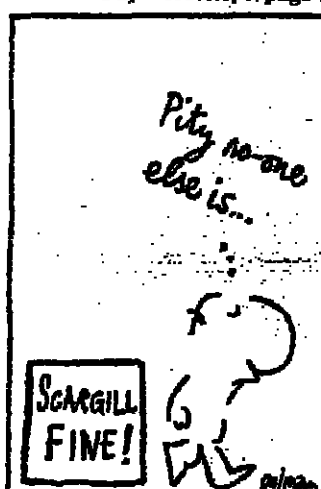
The Times Portfolio com-
petition was won yesterday by
Mrs Diana Davis who lives at
Blagdon, near Bristol. Portfolio
list, page 20. How to play,
information service, back page.

Tax clamp on fringe benefits

The Inland Revenue is now
applying the rules on the
taxation of fringe benefits much
more strictly. Under tax laws
many company perquisites,
such as cars, are taxable and
limiting legislation has been
introduced. Page 3

Pope in Spain

The Pope was greeted by King
Juan Carlos and Queen Sofia
yesterday on his arrival in Spain
for a 15-hour visit on his way to
the Caribbean. Page 7



Strike levy

Liverpool City Council last
night gave its trade unions the
right to levy a contribution to
the miners' strike from their
wages, with the money being
deducted from their pay packets
by the City Treasurer.

Envoy freed

Señor Pedro Aristegui, the
Spanish Ambassador to Lebanon,
was released unharmed
several hours after being kid-
napped in Beirut by two
unidentified gunmen. Page 6

Unilever wins

Unilever yesterday decisively
won the battle for Brooke Bond
by raising its offer from 114p to
125p a share, valuing Brooke
Bond at £580m.

Rough rides

John Francome, champion
National Hunt jockey, was
conquered in a Cheltenham fall
and will not ride for a week.
Willie Carson, champion Flat
jockey, was booed and had been
thrown over him after finishing
last on the Queen's horse.
Rough Stakes, at York. Page 26

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and others; water authorities,
from Mr J. V. Addison voluntary
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Leading articles: Lawson's
speech; Scargill case; Hongkong
and Taiwan
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Nora Bell on Yugoslavian
repression; Ronald Butt dis-
cusses class, labour and Tories;
Can the Tories curb the rate?
Profile of Irish poet Seamus
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reviews science fiction; Basil
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Miners undeterred by fines on Scargill and union

By Paul Rowlledge, Labour Editor

Miners' leaders last night set
a fresh course of conflict with
the law by reaffirming that their
31-week-old strike is official,
despite High Court fines yester-
day for contempt of £1,000 on
Mr Arthur Scargill and
£200,000 on the National
Union of Mineworkers.
Mr Scargill, the pitman's
president, read out on the steps
of his union's office in Sheffield
a statement expressing fresh
defiance of court orders that the
dispute is unofficial and
demanding that his members
should not cross picket lines.
The miners' renewed evi-
dence of open hostility to the
High Court is expected to
precipitate further moves for
alleged contempt, just as the pit
union reopens peace talks with
the National Coal Board.
Its national coordinating
committee, an ad hoc body
composed of national officials
of the union and leaders from
the main coalfields, which is
conducting the day-to-day busi-
ness of the strike, also re-
affirmed the executive's Octo-
ber 1 decision as official union
policy. "This means that the
strike action in the British
coalfields is official in accord-
ance with national rule 41", it
said.
"The union will continue to

do all in its power to win
maximum support for the strike
and reaffirm that there should
be no crossing of official picket
lines."
That statement is essentially
a reiteration of the comments
and decisions which yesterday
prompted Mr Justice Nicholls
to fine Mr Scargill and the
union for contempt of orders
made on September 28 that the
strike in Yorkshire and else-
where is unofficial, and that
miners must not be discouraged
from going to work under threat
of union discipline.
The judge said: "A great and
powerful union with large
membership has decided to
regard itself as above the law.
The wilful disobedience has
been committed with maxi-
mum publicity by a large and
powerful body bent on saying to
its members and the whole
nation that it is untouchable."
"If orders of the court are
seen to be set at naught in this
way - openly and repeatedly
defied by such a body with
impunity - where is the rule of
law?"
The union has 14 days to pay
its fine, and Mr Scargill 28 days
to pay his. Neither is likely to
do so. The union's national
executive is to meet soon,
probably on Sunday, to deter-

mine its next step. Continuing
refusal to pay the fine would
involve the union in seques-
tration of its assets, put at
£4.7m when the strike began
but now very much depleted.
Mr Michael McGahay, vice-
president of the union, said:
"You can't take the breaks off a
Highland man: we're skint."
And Mr Sid Vincent, leader of
the Lancashire pitmen, argued:
"If we have to operate from the
street, we will carry on the
fight."
Yesterday's contempt action
was brought by two "dissident"
Yorkshire miners, Mr Ken
Foulstone and Mr Robert
Taylor, both from Manton
colliery. Mr Foulstone said at a
press conference later: "I feel
very unhappy about having to
take my own union to court to
stop the misuse of its members.
But I feel the law of the land has
been upheld."
Even though Mr Scargill is
not a rich man, he ought to be
able to pay the £1,000 fine,
earning £27,500 a year and
living modestly. However, he
has foregone his salary since the
strike began.
Free coal withdrawn, page 2
Leading article, letters, page 13

Pit talks begin today at Acas

By Our Labour Editor

Peace talks aimed at ending
the pit strike open this morning
against a background of rising
optimism among politicians
and National Coal Board
managers.
Mr Ian MacGregor, chairman
of the board, goes into the
eighth round of negotiations
with the National Union of
Mineworkers with an unex-
pected degree of hope that this time
there could be a settlement of
the conflict over colliery clus-
tures.
Mr Pat Lowry, chairman of
the Advisory, Conciliation and
Arbitration Service (Acas), has
apparently indicated that the
miners have taken a more
flexible line in informal, pre-
negotiation exchanges.
Mr MacGregor said last
night: "We had a meeting with
Mr Lowry and I got the decided
impression that he was optimistic
about the position."
"We explained that we had
made all the concessions to
date, and therefore did not have
anything new to talk about, but
we were always willing to listen
to other ideas. He encouraged
us to meet him, so I assume that
he felt that there was something
there."
The coal chairman argued
that the core of the dispute was
unchanged. "We have to resolve
the criteria under which we
operate." That could be the
Continued on back page, col 4

Britain's day of banners and cash

From Ian Murray
Strasbourg

It was British benefit day in
the European Parliament here
yesterday. Britain was at last
paid back its £457m rebate;
British miners demonstration
tactics took over the floor of the
House, and the verbal battle
over Waterloo station rolled on.
The decision to pay back the
money, which had been frozen
by Parliament since the begin-
ning of the year, was taken by
218 votes to 34, with only the
French and Greek Communists,
the Gaullists and Flamma Fail
against. Most French Christian
Democrats were among the 10
who abstained.
Mr Malcolm Rifkind, Minis-
ter of State at the Foreign
Office, was in Strasbourg for the
vote. "We saw this as a debate
of honour", he said. "We are
delighted that this debt of
honour has now been satisfac-
torily paid. We look forward to
good relations with Parliament
now that this has been satisfac-
torily resolved."
Release of the money was one
of two conditions imposed by
the British Government before
it would agree to finding extra
money for the EEC this year.
The second condition was that
rules to control EEC spending
must be endorsed - a subject to
be negotiated at the next foreign
ministers' council in 10 days' time.
As far as good relations with
Parliament were concerned,
these came under something of
a strain when Mr Les Huckfield
leapt through a gap in the rules
of procedure to introduce the
miners' strike to the debates.
The new Labour MP for
Merseyside East called on the
skills he learnt as MP for
Nuneaton to bowl a googlie
question. How was it possible,
he asked, to discuss one matter
of interest to Britain - the
rebate - and not discuss an
issue of equal importance to
Britain - the strike?
The French benches groaned
as he carried relentlessly on,
encouraged by transnational
Socialist cheers. The statistics
had started to flow - 7,000
arrests, five deaths - when his
microphone was switched off.
He mimed on as "the
treasured emblem" of the
Blasien Gwent Lodges of the
National Union of Minework-
ers, which had been smuggled
into the chamber in a briefcase,
was unfurled.
Dr Otto Habsburg, once the
heir to the Austro-Hungarian
empire, was infuriated by the
sight of the red and gold banner
and tried to haul it down. He
failed.
A further row broke out
involving the British later when
unrepentant Labour MEPs
insisted that they were right in
hearing last week that a French
Gaullist member wanted to
rename Waterloo station. They
blamed this on bad simulta-
neous interpretation.
Photograph, page 6



Mrs Thatcher giving £1 yesterday to a collection in Brighton for working miners (Photograph: John Voos).

Warning on Labour threat to judges

From Julian Haviland, Political Editor, Brighton

Sir Patrick Mayhew, the
Solicitor General, said yester-
day that the "Leninist left" in
the Labour Party had created for
the first time a real threat to the
independence of judges, on
whom alone the citizen could
rely for protection from the
abuse of power by governments.
There was a real danger that
repeated attacks on judges by
Labour might undermine the
confidence of the public and of
the judges themselves, with
obvious consequences for re-
cruitment and quality.
Sir Patrick said the Labour
Party conference last week had
passed resolutions deeply dam-
aging to the rule of law in the
banning of all policing during
industrial disputes, and the
vesting in local authorities of
total control over the police.
He did not doubt that there
were those who wished to

overturn the whole consti-
tutional structure of an inde-
pendent judiciary, an impartial
police force and an adminis-
tration of law which remedied
wrongs.
The very effectiveness of
Britain's arrangements called
for the increasing scale of the
attacks on them. Sir Patrick
said: "to the would-be autocrat
it must be intolerable that the
principle of the supremacy of
law should apply to the
Government, to every minister
and official, to every over-mis-
treated subject, as well as to
the humblest person in the land."
"I do not doubt that this
highly inconvenient provi-
sion for protecting the small man
makes the hard left so deter-
mined to get at the judges", he
added.



Sir Patrick Mayhew:
Defending judges.

Sir Patrick, who was speaking
at a fringe meeting in Brighton,
traced the development by the
judges of the process of judicial
review of discretionary action
by ministers.
The judges, not parliament,
had created this precious
remedy for the oppressed
citizen, which was no doubt
irritating to the executive of the
day.
It was a safeguard against
malicious or capricious use of
power, which no one but the
judges could provide.
Sir Patrick gave examples of
Labour and Conservative
ministers against whom the
courts had found.

Dealers in heroin face 'life'

By Stewart Tendler
Crime Correspondent

Heroin smugglers and deal-
ers face life sentences as part of
a package of new measures to
be introduced by the Govern-
ment to combat drug abuse.
Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minis-
ter for Health, told the
Conservative Party conference
yesterday that the new
sentences will be included in
next year's legislation.
The other measures an-
nounced by Mr Clarke include
another £5m for drug abuse
treatment, 100 more customs
and excise drug investigators,
and clear directives to the
police to take greater action.
Mr Clarke, speaking at the
end of the first debate on drug
abuse by the party conference
since the 1960s, offered pro-
posals in reply to party
representatives clearly worried
by the problem.
Calls for tougher measures
came from speakers including a
schoolboy, a doctor and a
number of MPs. Thirteen
motions on drug abuse were
tabled. Mr Colin Dobson, a
sixth former from Oxford, told
the conference that he had seen
children sniffing glue during
their lunch-break near his
school and spoke of being
approached by drug peddlars,
who he said were "scum-
destroyers of the youth of this
country".
Mr Clarke, speaking on
behalf of other ministers at the
Continued on back page, col 6

Inquiry to review whole system of local government finance

From Philip Webster, Political Reporter, Brighton

The Government yesterday
announced a wide-ranging re-
view of the entire system of
local government finance, going
far beyond its previous un-
successful attempts to find alterna-
tives to domestic rates and one
which could result in some of
the functions now provided
locally being taken over by
central government.
The inquiry, to be headed by
Mr Kenneth Baker, the new
Minister for Local Government,
and expected to last 18 months,
was outlined to the Conserva-
tive Party Conference in
Brighton by Mr Patrick Jenkin,
Secretary of State for the
Environment, in response to
revived demands from the Tory
grass roots for the Government
to fulfil the pledge of Mrs
Margaret Thatcher 10 years ago
to abolish the rating system.
The review, aimed at produc-
ing what Mr Jenkin described as
a more robust and fairer system
of local finance, will examine
yet again both domestic and
business rates. But, more
significantly, it will cover both
the operation of the rate support
grant system and the balance
between local and central
financing of local spending.
That it was explained later,
could lead to the transfer of

some functions to the centre.
Education, which accounts for
47 per cent of local authority
current expenditure in England,
is a favourite candidate for
some ministers.
In a second important initia-
tive, Mr Jenkin announced he
will put proposals to the
Commons for an inquiry into
abuses by some left-wing
Labour councils of their power.
Mr Jenkin spoke of councils
squandering millions on vir-
tually meaningless
Conference reports 4
Leading article 13
lent propaganda campaigns, the
political selection of council
officers, the suppression of the
rights of minorities on councils,
and the manipulation of stand-
ing orders.
The inquiry will cover alleged
abuses of Sections 137 and 142
of the Local Government Act,
1972, which some councils have
used to authorize publicity
campaigns.
But it is clear that it will go
much further or consider the
legal basis on which local
government operates. Mr Jen-
kin questions whether local
government operates. Mr Jen-
kin questions whether local

government could be expected
to continue operation on the
conventions of a century ago.
He is to seek all-Party
support for the inquiry, likely to
be headed by an eminent
constitutional expert, although
some MPs doubted whether the
announcement of such an
initiative at a conference would
help him to win it.
Mr Jenkin's announcement
of the finance review was seen
as a recognition by the Govern-
ment that its various attempts
at controlling local spending
through targets, penalties and
rate capping have failed, as yet,
to produce a satisfactory out-
come.
Mr Jenkin was given a
lukewarm reception, by a large
section of the conference upset
by his advice that it should stop
demanding, year after year, an
end to domestic rates in the
absence of a sound and
acceptable alternative.
During a later debate Mr
Baker announced that the
Government was setting up a
London planning commission
to advise it on strategic
planning decisions after the
abolition of the Greater London
Council.

Lawson blames unions and trade barriers

From Our Political Editor, Brighton

Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chan-
cellor, yesterday promised the
Conservative Party that he
expected to "bounce back" to
increased growth next year at
the same sort of level, more
than 3 per cent, as was achieved
last year.
But he warned the party
conference at Brighton that
 dangers still abounded in
growing protectionist pressures
worldwide and high interest
rates largely caused by the
American deficit.
He disappointed the confer-
ence by comparing the British
labour market unfavourably
with the American market while
offering little government
action to improve it.
The Chancellor said the main
cause of high unemployment in
Britain, as in much of Europe,
was the determination of
monopolistic trade unions to
insist on levels of pay that
priced men out of work.

But employers were also to
blame. Every time a weak
management granted an exces-
sive pay claim, it condemned
more workers to the dole queue.
There was no escaping the link
between pay and jobs.
In a brief debate on the
economy the party's concern
about the unchecked rise in
unemployment was plain.
Mr Lawson said he shared
the concern, the party should be
clear: "You will not reduce
unemployment by increasing
what the Government spends or
borrows, nor by printing more
money. That approach has been
tested to destruction."
Mr Lawson's speech was
dubbed "complacent" by Mr
Roy Hattersley, Shadow Chan-
cellor, who said that it con-
firmed that the Government
was committed to high unem-
ployment (Richard Evans
writes).

£100m bank rescue hits snags

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

The Bank of England is
having a difficult time persuad-
ing City bankers to contribute
to a £100m safety net for
Johnson Matthey Bankers, the
bullion bank it rescued last
week.
High-level discussions were
said to be taking place between
the banks and the Bank of
England yesterday.
The Bank of England is trying
to corral a range of City banks
and institutions to provide
indemnities totalling £100m in
case the losses uncured at
JMB turn out to be higher than
expected. The package is far
from complete, and those
involved are making the size of
their contribution conditional
on everyone else chipping in.

However, the four bullion
dealers, who along with JMB
belong to the London gold
market, have agreed to put in
£7.5m each and 13 members of
the Accepting Houses Com-
mittee, the merchant bankers'
club, have provisionally agreed
on about £10m. The Bank of
England had hoped to raise
£25m from the merchant
banks.
Public money is also being
put at risk with the Bank of
England offering £10m towards
the safety net. The Bank would
also have to bear any further
costs if the safety net was used
up.
The main uncertainty about
the package seems to centre on
the contribution from London

and Scottish clearing banks,
which is put at £20m to £50m.
One of the banks' main
complaints is that they are
being asked to put money at
risk but do not stand to benefit
if JMB is eventually sold.
The scale of the indemnities
being demanded has raised fears
that the problems at JMB are
worse than expected. Possible
losses have been put at between
£100m and £150m and, includ-
ing undervalued assets in the
JMB balance sheet, the Bank of
England has about £170m to
cover this. Only if the losses
were more than £170m would
the indemnities be called.
Kenneth Fleet, page 21

Husband of Diana Dors is found shot dead

By Sheila Beardall

Alan Lake, the husband of
the late Diana Dors, was found
shot dead yesterday, the six-
teenth anniversary of the day
the couple first met.
He was discovered in his
£325,000 home, Orchard
Manor, Sunningdale, Berks-
hire, which he had turned into
a shrine to Diana Dors, who
died from cancer five months
ago.
He had a reputation as a
hard, sometimes violent man
whose soft spot had been his
overpowering love for his wife,
who was ten years his senior.
Friends said he had been
terribly depressed and believe
he never recovered from the
grief of her death.
Surrey police are treating his
death as suicide. A spokesman

said: "The wound appeared to
be self-inflicted. We are not
looking for anyone in con-
nection with the shooting."
The couple's son Jason, aged
15, was told the news while
rehearsing a play, *Breaking the
Silence*, with the Royal Shakes-
peare Company at the Barbican
Centre, London.
Mrs Honor Webb, the
family's housekeeper, said she
heard a shot early yesterday
afternoon and found Mr Lake
lying dead in his son's bedroom
with a shotgun by his side. No
note was found. Lieut. Col
George McCowan, the Surrey
coroner, has been informed.
Mr Lake died as dramati-
cally as he had lived. Apart



Diana Dors with Alan Lake.

from playing villains on the
screen, he had had rumoured
links with gangland leaders. In
1970 he was sentenced to 18
months' imprisonment for
maliciously wounding the
manager of the Red Lion Inn,

and in a newspaper interview
in August he said he still felt
she was in the house.
"Often I think with dread of
the coming weeks. September
11 is Jason's birthday and
October 10 is the anniversary
of the day we met. They're each
like a dagger that will go
through me."
He recently put Orchard
Manor up for sale, saying it
was distressing for him to go on
living there.
Mrs Webb said that he had
taken Jason to the station in
the morning and appeared to be
very, very depressed when he
returned.
A neighbour said: "He
missed his wife so much. He
was always crying for her. He
just loved her so much that he
couldn't carry on without her."



Pension and child benefit strike may spread to hit unemployment pay

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Union leaders meet today to decide whether to extend the pensions strike at Newcastle Tyne to Department of Employment and Social Security computers at Reading, Berkshire, and Livingston, Lothian, which would affect payment of unemployment benefit to one million people.

The strike by 400 computer staff at the department's Newcastle and Washington, Tyne and Wear offices, now in its twenty-second week, has affected pension and child benefit payments to about nine million pensioners and to more than half the seven million recipients of child benefit.

It has so far cost the department at least £40m, a bill which is increasing by between £3m and £4m a week and has led to the recruitment of 3,000 extra civil servants.

The Civil and Public Services Association said yesterday that staff at Reading had voted to take action from Monday if the union's executive approves today. But there are signs that the executive is under as much pressure to call off the action as to extend it.

If the unemployment benefit computers are hit, the Department said that it had contingency plans to write Giro cheques by hand, which could

involve recruiting up to 4,000 casual staff at unemployment offices.

The 400 computer staff have been on strike over changes in shift arrangements and payments which the department says would have cost £700,000 a year.

Last week they were joined by 72 staff at the Hebburn office nearby, who had been asked to start distributing 350,000 new pension books covers a week to allow the pension increase on November 26 to go ahead.

The covers had been prepared on overtime by staff at Newcastle working through the dispute, and it is evident that support there for the strike is far from solid among other staff which has led some union officials to argue that it is unwinnable.

The strike, however, already cost the department far more than the sums it hopes to save.

About seven million pensioners are now being paid weekly on the stubs of old pension books, at a cost of between £2.1m and £2.8m a week because the Post Office says that it takes three times as long to handle the cases.

The DHSS will also have to pay for the decision to defer closure of up to 1,000 post offices to help cope with the queues.

Four million child benefit recipients are also being paid at post offices on old order books, at a cost of about £1.4m a week. That figure will rise as more of the 20-week order books run out.

The 300,000 British pensioners overseas have probably been worst hit, facing long delays in payment. The department says that so far three-quarters of them are now receiving money.

Pensioners paid by automatic credit transfer are still receiving payment, but the computer program cannot be amended, so that payments are continuing after death. About 300,000 of the 430,000 pensioners paid four-weekly or quarterly have responded to advertisements and are being paid by local DHSS offices.

The department is recruiting 3,800 extra staff at local offices to cope with this workload.

Short-term National Insurance benefits such as sickness and maternity benefit are now having to be paid on estimates of people's entitlement, which is bound to lead to errors.

The absence of up-to-date National Insurance records has also led the department to recruit 1,500 casual staff to free others to check on contribution records for those claiming unemployment benefit.

All striking miners lose their free coal

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The National Coal Board has finally withdrawn concessionary coal supplies to striking miners in its western area, which covers pits in Cumbria, Lancashire, Cheshire, Staffordshire and the West Midlands. It has 8,700 miners at work and 5,000 on strike.

Since the start of the present dispute, the concessionary scheme, inherited by the board when the industry was nationalized, had been stopped in all areas except the western.

The scheme was kept there while miners gradually reported for work - 2,500 in the last four months - although deliveries of smokeless fuels for all miners at work or on strike, have been "backed" by the National Union of Mineworkers.

The western area produces no smokeless fuel and depends on deliveries from other areas to meet domestic consumer demand. Output in the area is now running at 80,000 tonnes a week compared with 200,000 tonnes a year ago.

A 24-hour strike was started yesterday by 36 drivers at the National Fuel Deliveries depot in Longton, near Stoke-on-Trent, in protest at the withdrawal of concessionary supplies. The depot is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the coal board and the drivers are members of the Transport & General Workers' Union.

A board official said: "The decision by the drivers to stop deliveries to working miners also means pensioners, widows and other needy cases are forced to go without."

The concessionary coal scheme operates under local agreements, which the board has unsuccessfully attempted to replace with a national agreement.

There have also been suggestions by sectors of management that the scheme should be abolished, but they have never been put to the union officially for fear of compensatory pay claims being submitted.

Normal annual concessionary coal allowances to NCB employees, in tons: Scotland: 7.15; Northumberland: 10.05; Durham: 7.45; Yorkshire: 9.14; Derbyshire: 8.5; S. Derbyshire: 10.13; Nottinghamshire: 10.00; Leicestershire: 10.55; Cumberland: 6.0; Lancashire: 6.1; N. Wales: 8.15; S. Wales: 7.11; N. Staffordshire: 7.5; Warwickshire: 6.62; Kent: 9.9.

Many doctors police officers and firemen, and finance insurance and tax specialists, earned well over £300 a week.

Lowest paid groups included shopworkers, National Health Service nursing and ancillary staff, local authority manual workers and garage mechanics.

In spite of the high level of unemployment, overtime earnings increased. Male manual workers, who earned an average of £152.70 a week, received £20.90 of this from overtime payments, with £12.80 for bonus payments and £5 for shift premiums.

Without overtime, the increase in average weekly earnings for all employees would have been 7.4 per cent, rather than the 8.1 per cent actually recorded.

QC leads criticism of Scargill contempt case

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent

Four barristers led by Lord Gifford, QC, yesterday criticized the contempt proceedings against Mr Arthur Scargill, the National Union of Mineworkers' leader, as a "misuse of the law for political ends."

The four, who are all concerned with civil rights, said they were "increasingly appalled" at what they called "the misuse of the law for political ends" in the case of the National Coal Board and the Government.

In a joint statement they said the contempt proceedings, which have led to a £1,000 fine on Mr Scargill and £200,000 fine on the NUM, was a further attempt to coerce and intimidate those on strike.

"We declare this to be a misuse of the law for political ends. We support the decision of the NUM leadership to take no part in a charade which brings the law and the courts into public disrepute."

The fine did not begin to compare with the few hundreds of pounds usually imposed on employers for dismissing workers or for breaches of safety regulations that caused deaths, she said.

The French government was lobbied into giving it an export licence. The portrait is the only David in an English public collection and is said to have cost about £1.5m.

"And when I went to look at it to check the artist's handling of paint," Michael Simpson complained yesterday, "I hadn't got it hanging."

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Mr Ken Foulstone (top) one of the miners bringing a legal action against the NUM and (above) Mr Arthur Scargill, at press conferences yesterday.

Pitman returns to work 24 hours after beating

By Peter Davenport

Mr Tony Haller, the miner who was beaten up by a gang of hooded men for breaking the strike at Mr Arthur Scargill's former colliery in Yorkshire, returned to work yesterday.

His decision surprised National Coal Board officials who had expected him to be off work for several days recovering from injuries which included facial cuts, a suspected broken nose and a badly bruised chest and back.

Just 24 hours after the beating Mr Haller, aged 40, of Arcliffe Drive, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, went back to work at Woolley colliery, in an NCB van with a police escort.

He defied up to 200 pickets at the colliery entrance who had gathered to jeer and boo.

Mr Haller's wife, Christine, aged 38, said after her husband had left for work: "It took me half an hour to get him out of bed. I didn't want him to go because I didn't think he was well enough. But he was determined to go."

Throughout the Yorkshire colliery yesterday 76 men out of the total workforce of 56,000 returned to work, a record turnout in the 31-week strike.

continue to support the NUM. He thought about 2,000 had left the union recently because of the miners' issue rather than the 30,000 suggested by a questionnaire.

The special 2,000-strong conference in London yesterday, which cost more than £200,000 to arrange, was convened on the insistence of 100 branches in the belief that most of the union's membership disagreed with the support for the pit strike endorsed by the annual conference.

Mr Alan Jenkins, deputy general secretary of the union, said at the meeting that he was confident branches would

continue to support the NUM. He thought about 2,000 had left the union recently because of the miners' issue rather than the 30,000 suggested by a questionnaire.

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continue to support the NUM. He thought about 2,000 had left the union recently because of the miners' issue rather than the 30,000 suggested by a questionnaire.

Home Office rejects police band appeal

By Peter Davenport

Mr James Anderson, the Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, lost his last hope yesterday of keeping the military-style band axed by his police authority.

He had pinned hopes of a reprieve on an appeal to the Home Office to intervene and rule the councillors out of order in their decision to end the £160,000-a-year financial backing for the band.

But in a meeting between an HM Inspector of Police and Mr Anderson's deputy chief constable, Mr John Stalker, it was made clear that the Home Office would not step in.

It is understood that Mr Stalker was told that there could be intervention only on issues that directly affected police efficiency and the presence or otherwise of a military-type band, did not fall into that category.

The dispute over the future of the band was the latest in a long series of arguments between Mr Anderson and his left-wing police committee. Last week, in an effort to reduce costs, he met the extra bills of policing the coal dispute in Greater Manchester, now standing at £1.5m.

The police committee voted to end financial support for the band.

The officers, who spent two out of each five-day working week on band duties, under a full-time leader, have been returned to operational duties. All their engagements, including two school concerts for 2,500 children this week, have been cancelled.

Mr Anderson was determined to keep his band and was "disappointed" at the Home Office decision not to intervene. The chairman of the police committee, Councillor Mrs Gabrielle Cox, said yesterday: "This just backs up the advice we had from the council's legal officer. We believe we cannot continue to provide funds for the band at the risk of threatening other more important police services. And we will not do so."

The committee had said the band could continue on a voluntary basis, but senior officers yesterday said that it would be totally impracticable because it would be impossible for all the members to work the same shifts and meet the band's commitments.

Mr Parrish, aged 54, has been in the police service more than 30 years and could retire, although, as he is a senior officer, only with the consent of the police authority, unless on medical grounds.

Mr Parrish was suspended on full pay in June. He faces a hearing into claims that he spent £28,000 on his office without authorization.

Mr Harry Lowe, chairman of Derbyshire police authority, said last night he had initiated the inquiry. He denied it was politically motivated.

Mr Brittan said in Brighton that, using powers in the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, he would provide a new and politically independent check against attempts by a police authority to suspend its chief constable.

Merseyside police authority chairman, Mrs Margaret Simey, Labour, reiterated her belief yesterday on the *World at One* radio programme that the police are out of democratic control.

Doubt over curbs on lorry-spray

Measures to combat lorry-spray in wet weather, one of the worst hazards of motorway driving, were laid down by the Government yesterday amid widespread fears in industry that they will have little effect (our Transport Editor writes).

New lorries and trailers must be fitted with anti-spray equipment from 1985 to 1986, and existing vehicles from 1986 to 1987 under regulations laid before Parliament yesterday.

The main spray suppressants are flaps, wheelguards and absorbent mats of plastic bristles.

But the Freight Transport Association said yesterday that the equipment would not make the sort of difference people sought.

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Mr Timothy John Smith, aged 41, of the Seafront, Hayling Island, Hampshire, was remanded in custody until Friday when he appeared before Havant magistrates charged with murdering Mr Michael Robertson. There was no application for bail.

Mr Robertson, aged 41, of Hayling Island, was the UK property manager for IBM. He died on Tuesday from injuries he received last Friday.

variants. But I suppose it could have been done in the studio by one of his many pupils."

The painting is covered with the grime of ages. When cleaned, compared and inspected by scholars, its authorship should be determined.

In New York a single unknown buyer made a grand slam in cook books, acquiring some 90 per cent of Sotheby's three-session sale of the Marcus and Elizabeth Craham Collection of Books on Food, Drink and related subjects.

The bids, all on behalf of the same party, appeared to come from three different bidders.

Council is defiant over horse ban

By Peter Evans, Home Affairs Correspondent

A survey of relations yesterday between police authorities and chief constables in dispute about policing issues shows that measures announced by Mr Leon Brittan, Home Secretary, to the Conservative Party conference are unlikely to change much in the short term at least.

Labour-controlled South Yorkshire seemed likely to defy both Mr Brittan and the wishes of Mr Peter Wright, its Chief Constable, on the question of police horses.

Mr George Moore, chairman of the police authority, said he thought the council's policy committee would recommend to the full county council next week that the horses and membership of the Regional Crime Squad should be abolished.

"The dogs are in a different category. There is an argument for them," Mr Moore said, denying that the decision was political. He said it was good housekeeping. The considerable financial help offered by the Home Secretary would not be enough.

Getting rid of the horses and halving the number of dogs could put the police authority in breach of its duty to provide an adequate and efficient force, the Home Office said.

South Yorkshire shelved the decision after a deputation, including Mr Moore and Mr Wright, went to Mr Brittan on September 25. If the council

gets rid of the horses, Mr Brittan is expected to challenge the decision in the courts.

In Derbyshire, also Labour controlled, speculation about the future of the suspended chief constable, Mr Alfred Parrish, has been increased by the sick note he has submitted.

Mr Arthur Willis, Mr Parrish's solicitor, said yesterday the chief constable was suffering from general stress and exhaustion.

Mr Parrish, aged 54, has been in the police service more than 30 years and could retire, although, as he is a senior officer, only with the consent of the police authority, unless on medical grounds.

Mr Parrish was suspended on full pay in June. He faces a hearing into claims that he spent £28,000 on his office without authorization.

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Tories 'get £2.7m from firms'

By Richard Evans, Lobby Reporter

The Labour Party last night intensified its attack on secret donations by big business to the Conservative Party's funds.

A total of 311 companies gave £2,780,728 to the party during the past financial year, according to a dossier produced by Labour's research department.

The document notes: "We record a massive rise both in the number of public companies making political donations and the amount of money they have donated: donations over which there are no controls, over which the employees and shareholders of the company have virtually no say, from which shareholders have no right to opt out."

Only two firms consulted anyone outside their board of directors before contributing to the Conservatives. The contributions came in a year when trade union donations to the Labour Party have been under continuous public attack, a party spokesman said.

The biggest single donor to the Tories was British & Commonwealth Shipping which gave £95,050. It claims that Tory "front" organizations such as the British United Industrialists provided a further £728,600.

Donations direct to the party's funds rose by nearly £12m, or 70 per cent, with 33 firms accounting for nearly half the total. Seven firms gave more than £60,000 each and a further seven provided more than £50,000 each.

The Times calendar

A full colour calendar, featuring photographs of Britain, is available from newsmagazines or can be sent directly with a good wishes message. Send for a leaflet to Times Books Ltd, 16 Golden Square, London W1R 4BN.

The Times overseas selling prices: Australia £12.00; Canada \$12.00; Hong Kong \$12.00; India £12.00; Japan ¥1,200; New Zealand \$12.00; Singapore \$12.00; South Africa £12.00; Switzerland £12.00; Taiwan \$12.00; Thailand \$12.00; USA \$12.00; West Germany £12.00; Yugoslavia \$12.00.

Shorter summer time favoured

By Patricia Clough

The Government has come out in favour of shortening British summer time by two weeks from 1986 so that clocks can go back in the autumn at the same time as other EEC countries. But according to a Home Office spokesman, a final decision will not be made until the end of the year.

In a recent briefing to Conservative members of the European Parliament an EEC proposal to synchronize the end of summer time because "the United Kingdom wishes to play its full part in the development of the Community".

British summer time was shortened by one week in 1981 so that all the EEC members could start together. But Britain and Ireland still end their at the end of October, a month later than the rest. Under the EEC Commission's proposal everyone would end summer

time for 1986, 1987 and 1988 in the middle of October.

In his briefing to MEPs, the Home Office said synchronization would benefit international business and the travel industry. It conceded that most of the public would favour lighter evenings in October and there were objections from the building industry and farmers.

The European Parliament is scheduled to debate the proposal today and Mr William Newton Dunn, the Conservative MEP, said the Conservative spokesman said he expected his group to support it.

Labour members are likely to vote against, their transport spokesman, Mr George Stephenson, said, because they felt not enough study had been made of its practical implications. Labour, he said, were concerned among other things, that darker evenings would

mean more crime, although he conceded that there were no statistics to prove this either way.

A spokesman for the Building Employers' Confederation said if the Government has made up its mind, the confederation "will be making strong representations to get it reversed".

An earlier start to winter time would mean higher operating costs, such as more lighting, less use of expensive equipment and shorter working days. It could lengthen completion times and possibly increase safety hazards. The industry was "completely" opposed to it.

Strong opposition also came from the National Farmers' Union which said the loss of an hour's light could create difficulties for farmers in Scotland, who normally harvest their root crops and sow their winter crops at that time of the year. The NFU also argued that lack of light could endanger safety.

The speed with which 1,500 Vauxhall workers reacted to management's 7.2 per cent offer and walked out this week is indicative of workers' determination to get a bigger share of the cake this year.

Ford will reply on October 19 to a demand for 14 per cent which shop stewards said yesterday was "an all or nothing" demand.

Car workers seek pay reward

By Clifford Webb, Motoring Correspondent

The £1m campaign launched recently by the motor industry to publicize the increased productivity and new spirit of co-operation in its factories is being seized on by union negotiators to support demands for wage increases at Austin Rover, Vauxhall and Ford.

Manufacturers' claims that productivity in some British car plants is on a par with the best in Europe and that days lost per employee have fallen from nearly seven days five years ago to 1.8 days last year are being flung back across the negotiating table.

This week's news that newly-privatized Jaguar has offered its workers a 21 per cent increase over the next two years could hardly have come at a more damaging time.

A veteran motor industry negotiator said last night: "John Eggar (Jaguar's chairman) has a lot to answer for and not only to other car makers. His suppliers will be after him to increase the price he pays for their parts. They will rightly be able to claim that like his workers they have played their part in Jaguar's recovery by keeping prices down and quality up."

An Austin Rover executive said: "Few car workers will want to be reminded that Jaguar almost alone in the industry has made a substantial £50m profit or that labour costs on big luxury cars are a much smaller proportion of total costs than they are on the cars the rest of us manufacture. It will be a simple case of 'what's good enough for Jaguar workers is good enough for us'."

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Shergar colt is moved under guard to hide-out

Strict security was in operation to protect a yearling son of Shergar sold on Tuesday for £3.1m guineas, a European record, at Goffs Sales in Kildare.

The colt, still unnamed, was taken yesterday to a secret destination and is under an armed guard.

As soon as the auctioneer's hammer came down, carefully prepared security plans were put into operation. The new owner is determined that the colt will not suffer the same fate as Shergar which is thought to have been killed by IRA kidnappers.

Likely trainer, page 26

'Napoleon' painting could be £2m master

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Somerville and Simpson, the London picture dealers, spent £14,300 at Sotheby's yesterday to acquire a painting of Napoleon Crossing the Great St Bernard Pass on a romanticising steed. They hope it may be possible to prove that the painting is by the great French Neo-Classical master, Jacques Louis David, in which case it should be worth in excess of £2m. Sotheby's catalogued it as "after David".

David's work is now extremely rare. The National Gallery acquired its first example in July, a portrait of Jacobus Blauw, only because

the French government was lobbied into giving it an export licence. The portrait is the only David in an English public collection and is said to have cost about £1.5m.

"And when I went to look at it to check the artist's handling of paint," Michael Simpson complained yesterday, "I hadn't got it hanging."

He explained that there is an 8ft by 8ft version of the Napoleon subject by David at Malmaison. Yesterday's picture measures 4ft by 4ft and could have been a preparatory model. "It is certainly not a copy," Simpson says, "there are too many

variants. But I suppose it could have been done in the studio by one of his many pupils."

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Inland Revenue clamping down on fringe benefits says top tax consultant

By Ian Griffiths

The Inland Revenue is taking a much more aggressive stance on the taxation of fringe benefits than in the past, a leading tax accountant said yesterday.

Mr Bill Packer, National Tax Technical Director with accountants Touche Ross, said that in recent months tax inspectors had taken a much greater interest in fringe benefits to employees and they were applying the rules much more strictly.

There has been no change in the law, it is just that the existing laws are being enforced more stringently, he said. "The cases where the Inland Revenue turns a blind eye to fringe benefits are diminishing."

Under tax laws, many company perks, such as a company car, are taxable. The Government has introduced legislation to discourage growth in this area and this has particularly hit company directors and employees who earn more than £8,500 a year.

The latest perk to come under scrutiny by the Inland Revenue is the Christmas party. Mr

Packer said that Touche Ross had at least one client who had recently been asked to supply the tax inspector with details of expenditure on staff parties.

If the Inland Revenue decides that the amount spent on directors and higher-paid employees is too lavish, then they will demand an additional payment of tax on the benefit.

The Inland Revenue has said it has no intention of taxing the traditional staff social at Christmas, but excessive payments could be taxed.

Mr Packer also cited the case of a children's crèche in Holborn, London, which was paid for by employers in the area, mainly to help single-parent families. The local tax inspector argued that this was a benefit in kind and was therefore taxable.

In an effort to help taxpayers employed on the PAYE system of assessment to mitigate their liabilities Mr Packer has co-written a book, published today, called *A Tax Guide To Pay and Perks*.

It sets out the basic rules of PAYE and the tax treatment of

fringe benefits. It highlights key areas where taxpayers could take advantage of legislation to reduce their tax bill.

These include:

- Pensions. These are one of the most tax-efficient benefits in the long term. Taxpayers should examine the terms of their plan and consider any additional voluntary contributions they wish to make.

- Company cars. If the car is used mainly for business, the taxpayer should ensure he drives more than 18,000 business miles a year. If the car is rarely used for business, an effort should be made to clock up at least 2,500 business miles in order to reduce tax on the benefit. Any contribution made by the taxpayer to the company for the car should be in respect of the car itself, not the petrol.

- Share Option Schemes. These are increasingly popular and offer tax-efficient opportunities for the taxpayer to take a stake in the company.

- Termination payments. Care should be taken to ensure that the timing of the payment is right.



Tank forerunner: A Hornsby tractor, which first operated on paraffin.

Tank museum gives 1909 track-layer an outing

A 1909 Hornsby tractor possibly the oldest working track-layer vehicle in the world has been given an outing at the Tank Museum, Bovington Camp, Dorset.

It is still in very good running order and recently a volunteer friend of the museum, Mr Peter Scott, of Blackpool, spent a week of his annual holiday working on it and other armoured vehicles.

The museum is trying to get as many as possible of its collection back into working order. £500,000 has already been spent on improvements and a similar sum is needed to enlarge the exhibition halls.

The tractor was built by Robert Hornsby and Sons of Grantham, Lincolnshire. Its special "rigid girder" track, which only flexes in the inward direction, was invented and

patented by David Roberts, Hornsby's managing director. It was powered by a six-cylinder engine, rated at about 70hp, and originally designed to run on paraffin.

In 1911 a change in War Office policy favoured petrol and the tractor was duly converted. In its modified form it developed 105hp. It was regularly used at annual camps and similar events in the years leading up to the First World War, mainly for hauling heavy guns. However, it was up against the long-established, horse-oriented traditions of the artillery and the idea failed to catch on.

One officer, watching it on such an exercise, wondered if it could be armoured and used to carry troops. He had imagined the tank five years before such things were built.

Motor cycle racing 'unsafe'

By Colin Hughes

Allegations that motor cycle racing riders can be killed and maimed in British races because of inadequate safeguards and poor management are made by top international riders on a BBC *Checkpoint* programme being broadcast on television tonight.

An extraordinary furore has accompanied the making of the programme, with senior race officials being quoted in the motor cycling press accusing the BBC team of witch-hunting, smears, and character assassination.

Mr John Edwards, the programme producer, has been astonished by what he calls "intemperate" remarks by members of the Auto Cycle Union's race committee, which is responsible for controlling the sport in the United Kingdom. Mr Vernon Cooper, the

chairman of the committee, who is a dominant figure in the sport and central to the racing fraternity controversy, wrote a letter to *Motorcycle News* published last week accusing the BBC team of throwing a "shroud of secrecy" over the programme. He said he believed the programme is "designed to assassinate me and smear my reputation, a witch hunt so far as motor cycle racing is concerned."

Mr Cooper, who at first insisted on being interviewed for the programme, later decided after consulting solicitors to refuse comment, because he thought the programme would not be "the appropriate forum for discussing the issues raised".

Yesterday he told *The Times* that he did not want to be associated with an investigation

by a programme which he thought devoted its attentions to "twisters and rogues".

The Isle of Man TT race comes in for particular criticism.

The programme shows film previously banned by the BBC of a gruesome accident in which two riders died at Silverstone last year. Track officials allowed leading riders to continue for two-and-a-half laps before stopping the race, during which time one of the riders' bodies was lying in the middle of the track.

A trackside doctor interviewed for the programme says it usually takes at least half an hour to move injured riders from an accident to hospitals, which is often crucial in deciding whether they live or die.

BBC plans rival to the 'Street'

By David Hewson

The BBC is to launch its own rival to *Coronation Street*, a twice-weekly soap opera which will run indefinitely from early next year.

Eastenders is the corporation's first continuous soap opera since the early 1970s and is regarded as a key element in the BBC campaign to win back viewers from commercial television. The corporation would not say how much the serial cost yesterday, or even what time it will be broadcast.

"The timing is a matter for Michael Grade [the new managing director] to decide," a spokesman said.

Miss Julia Smith the programme's producer, who has been working on the project for a year, declined to say how much it cost to build a Victorian Square at Elstree, in studios the BBC bought earlier this year for £7m.

Miss Smith said she had discussed soap opera budgets with Mr Bill Podmore, who produces *Coronation Street*, and thought the cost of the serial would be comparable.

Eastenders will be set in a Victorian square in east London, a mixture of council houses and private properties with its own public house, the Queen Victoria, and a regular multi-racial cast of more than 20.

Wendy Richard, who appeared in *Are You Being Served?*, Shirley Cheriton from *Angels*, and Susan Tully of *Orange Hill* are among the cast.

Vaccine find in hepatitis battle

By Pearce Wright, Science Editor

A genetically engineered vaccine against the life-threatening liver disease, hepatitis B, has been developed for the international research organization, Biogen, by a team under the direction of Professor Kenneth Murray, head of the department of molecular biology at Edinburgh University.

The vaccine is to be manufactured by the Wellcome Foundation under an agreement announced yesterday between the company and Biogen.

The substance proved effective in laboratory trials in protecting chimpanzees against infection. Human clinical trials are planned by Wellcome for next year in several medical centres throughout the world.

Attention has focused on the condition recently in Britain and America because of an increase in the incidence of people becoming infected through injecting themselves with dirty hypodermic needles.

But although there are an estimated 170 million persistent carriers of the infection in the world, the illness is relatively uncommon in Europe and North America. Medical, nursing, and laboratory staff are often at risk from infected blood, serum, and saliva samples.

A vaccine has been produced recently using established methods of vaccine preparation. That involves using infected blood from which to culture a preparation for immunization

purposes. It was shown to reduce the incidence in trials among the homosexual population at high risk to hepatitis in America. But the programme of vaccination became complicated after the appearance of Aids (acquired immune deficiency syndrome).

The genetic engineering approach used for the new vaccine offers a way of avoiding the most difficult and hazardous aspects of producing substances in the traditional manner. The manufacturing process no longer depends on handling infected blood or tissues or storing dangerous viruses.

What Professor Murray's team did was to extract from the infectious material containing the virus in just one protein. It is called the hepatitis B surface antigen, or HBsAg for short. But the presence of just that protein is sufficient to cause the body's defence system to generate antibodies to counteract the source of the virus infection.

Once the HBsAg was isolated, genetic manipulation using yeast cells was used to culture endless numbers of clones of the antigen. There is no animal tissue connected with the process.

The initial study with infectious materials was conducted at the Porton Down microbiological laboratory, of the Department of Health, which has special safe laboratories for handling infectious substances.

Life for ice cream killers

Two men were sentenced to life imprisonment yesterday for murdering a family of six in Glasgow's ice cream war. Four other men were also jailed at Glasgow High Court for their parts in the violence that culminated in a petrol attack on an ice cream van driver's home.

In the attack on April 16, Tony Doyle, aged 14, and his sister Mrs Christine Halleron, aged 25, perished. Her baby, Mark, aged 18 months, the driver, Andrew Doyle, aged 18, his brother, James, aged 23, and their father, James, aged 53, died later.

The jury returned its verdicts after nine hours of deliberation over two days. The judge, Lord Kincaid told the six accused: "I regard you as vicious and dangerous men in varying degrees."

Thomas Campbell, aged 32, of Barlanark Road, Barlanark, Glasgow, was found guilty of murdering the six members of the Doyle family and was sentenced to life imprisonment, with the recommendation that he serve 20 years. He was also sentenced to 10 years concurrent for his part in a shotgun attack on Andrew Doyle.

Joseph Steele, aged 22, of Craiglockart Street, Garthamlock, Glasgow, was also convicted of the murders and was sentenced to life imprisonment. He was found guilty of conspiring to attack a van driver and of damaging an ice cream van and was sentenced to six years and one year, the sentences to run concurrently.

Thomas Gray, aged 31, of Myreside Street, Garthamlock, was convicted of attempting to murder Andrew Doyle and was sentenced to 14 years imprisonment.

Thomas Lafferty, aged 40, of Dudhope Street, Garthamlock, was found guilty of taking part in a shotgun attack to the danger of life and was sentenced to three years imprisonment.

George Reid, aged 33, of Mossdale, Craigend, was found guilty of a knife assault and damaging an ice cream van and was sentenced to a total of three years imprisonment.

John Campbell, aged 21, of Craiglockart Street, Garthamlock, was found guilty of taking part in the attack on an ice cream van and was sentenced to one year imprisonment. He received a three-year concurrent sentence for his part in a shotgun assault.



Dr Robert Pickard. Inset: Varroa on tail of bee, compared with common six-leg fly parasite Bracon.

British hives threatened by Oriental bee parasite

From Tim Jones, Cardiff

Scientists fear that a bee parasite which is spreading across Europe could destroy honey-bee colonies in Britain and affect plant ecology.

The 1.1 millimetre long, Varroa parasite has lived off the Oriental honey bee for 15m years. In that time evolution has allowed the two species to coexist, with the parasite attacking mainly the drones in its native clime so that the species is not endangered.

But in Europe, where the Varroa has reached eastern France, it feeds off queen and worker alike, which could spell doom for thousands of hives. Although there are no perceptible genetic differences between the European and Oriental bees, the former is threatened because it has not had time to work out a living relationship with its unwelcome guest.

Dr Robert Pickard, director of the Bee Research Unit at University College, Cardiff, fears that because of the independence of keepers, even

the Channel and official safeguards will not prevent the march of Varroa.

Winter takes a heavy toll of British bees and, in order to replenish stocks, the country's 35,000 keepers send abroad for new queens.

When imported officially, queens arrive in Britain with an escort of fifty worker bees who groom and clean her on the journey. She will not travel without such an entourage.

At the queen examination centre at Luddington, Ministry of Agriculture scientists make sure she is free of Varroa and replace the foreign worker bees with a British escort.

However, many keepers obtain bees privately, through friends abroad, and the bees sent directly to them do not undergo customs controls.

Varroa can also be introduced by ships and forries from which they may find their way into hives where, in winter particularly, they can feed freely on their inactive hosts.

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Chancellor says Government may change 'anti-jobs' laws

Reports by Alan Wood, Robert Morgan, Derek Barnett, Howard Underwood and Anthony Hodgson

There was no short cut to lower unemployment, Mr Nigel Lawson, Chancellor of the Exchequer, bluntly told the Conservative conference at Brighton yesterday. If there were the Government would have taken it.

They would not reduce unemployment by increasing what the Government spent or borrowed, nor by printing more money. That approach had been tested to destruction during the seventies and unemployment went on rising.

Mr Lawson indicated that the Government was having a look at those laws which, however well intentioned, made it more expensive or less attractive for employers to take people on.

The main cause of high unemployment in Britain today, and it was much the same in the rest of Europe, was the determination of monopolistic trade unions to insist on levels of pay that priced men out of work altogether. And some of them, not content with this, did their best to strike them out of work as well.

The Chancellor said that time and again they had seen how strikes in Britain had led to orders and jobs going abroad. But it was not just the unions, even though they lay heavy with them. Every time weak management agreed to grant an excessive pay claim they were condemning more workers to join the dole queue.

There was no escaping the link between pay and jobs, he added.

But Mr Lawson was in confident mood about the state of the economy, which he described as strong. Inflation was under control, growth continued, enterprise had reawakened, unemployment could be reduced and the future was bright. New businesses were springing up and new jobs being created.

Mr Simon Hoy, Guildford, moved, and conference carried, a motion urging the Government to adhere to its basic policies for controlling inflation and public expenditure and to reinforce them with all possible measures to reform the labour market and ease the transition for those who have to move jobs. He said that the Chancellor should make tax cuts his priority.

Mr Howard Flight, Putney, said Britain had flexible labour markets and trade unions which were the enemy of change.

Mr Robin Hodgson, Walsall North, spoke against the motion, saying it did not mention the need to continue reform of the tax system which contained major anomalies. Women were still treated as chattels of their husbands for tax purposes.

Mr Lawson, in his reply, said the past five years had been years of unprecedented financial stability. There had been no more sterling crises, no more stop-go, no more autumn budgets, no more crawling to the IMF cap in hand, no more panic foreign loans.

"Indeed, we have repaid everything the last Labour Government borrowed", he said to loud applause.

When he had attended the IMF it had been to represent a country whose economic policies were held up as an example to the rest of the world and increasingly that example was being followed.

"Throughout the length and breadth of Europe, even in Socialist France, they are all Thatcherites", he said.

Dangers still abounded. While the international debt problem was under control it was a long way from being solved and, largely because of the massive and unsustainable

United States deficit, world interest rates remained uncomfortably high.

"But we can succeed and we will succeed provided we stick firmly to our policies", Mr Lawson said. "It is based on three principles: sound money, fiscal responsibility, which means curbing government borrowing, and setting the people free to give their best."

The scourge of inflation had all but been destroyed, despite doubts by the Government's critics.

No fewer than 364 economists had written a letter to *The Times* to say just that. That had been a rather remarkable event.

"It was the first time in recorded history when 364 economists had agreed on anything and, of course, the one time they did agree they were wrong, because the link on their letter was scarcely dry when Britain's economic recovery began to get under way."

We are now in the fourth year of that economic recovery, with no sign of growth coming to an end.

Britain was creating more jobs, many in small firms and new businesses. But the number of unemployed had continued to rise too.

The task was to reestablish the enterprise culture and an essential part was cutting taxation. The level of taxation depended directly on the level of government spending.

Whatever their priorities if they were to get taxation down, as they must and would do, then they had to cut their coat according to their cloth.

He added: "Then as the economy continues to grow, provided we can keep control of government spending, we shall create the room to get taxes down further. And these further tax cuts will sustain further growth, a virtuous spiral."

In my Budget this year I embarked on the first stage of a major programme: tax reduction and tax reform, a programme for a Parliament. In next year's Budget I hope to carry the process further. Tax reform is seldom popular but timidity will get us nowhere. I do not see tax reform as a substitute for tax reduction. We need both."

Leading article, page 13

Today's debates

This morning the conference will debate food and farming, employment and homes and land. This afternoon there will be debates on free enterprise and industry, overseas affairs, and small businesses, the first of the two balloted motions to be considered. The other, to be taken on Friday morning, will concern Northern Ireland.

Mr Peter Viggers, MP for Gosport, said CND's belief in one-sided disarmament lay in their faith in Russian intent or that there was no other hope of arms reduction and lasting peace, but there was no prospect of the Russians reducing their arms if this country were to accept unilateral disarmament.

CND was active in undermining our defence and national morale. It was active in local government, in schools and the churches. Those opposed to unilateral disarmament must not allow these bodies to be hijacked by a minority that represented a one-sided faction.

The Ven Gordon Reid, Provost of Inverness Cathedral, said that as a Christian priest he explored the repeated assurance that CND spoke for all real Christians.

Mr Heseltine, replying to the debate, said that a year ago protest groups were chanting the simple message that if cruise missiles came to Britain to counter the menace clearly posed by the Soviet SS20s it would amount to a major threat to world peace. That nonsense. On not one day since cruise missiles had been deployed had the peace of Europe looked at risk.

There must be no gap where Britain's ability to respond was in doubt. Polaris was to be replaced by Trident. The cost of so vital an insurance policy was high. The latest estimate was about £300 spread over nearly 20 years. That should be seen as a proportion of a defence programme of perhaps £360b.

Mr Heseltine said that the Franks Inquiry into the Falklands conflict totally exonerated the Prime Minister and the Government, that did not suit the Labour Party.

It had been suggested that the Prime Minister sank the Belgrano to undermine the Peruvian peace initiative. No one in London even knew at the time that there was such an initiative. The accusation was absurd.

On May 1 the Argentine Air Force attacked the British Fleet and that night the Belgrano sailed towards the fleet. The commander of the British task force believed that the Belgrano was a threat and asked permission to sink it. The Prime Minister was advised by the Government's most senior military advisers to sink the Belgrano. She was advised that British lives were at risk.

The evidence was overwhelming, the advice categorical, the counter arguments non-existent.

Mr Heseltine: Attacking Labour's defence policy

Hope of talks to end strike at Sheffield's Labour bastion

By Hugh Clayton, Local Government Correspondent

Pickets huddled in the cold wind on the steps outside their workplace while their employers met inside to discuss tactics. "They are instructing our members to scab", a union organizer complains. "They want to escalate the disruption", one of the employers retorts. Each side agrees it will be a long strike.

But this is no ordinary dispute between a union and a company or nationalized industry. One of the placards held by pickets says: "Hypocrites - where are your socialist principles?" This is Sheffield City Council, where Labour councillors outnumber those of other parties by more than two to one and determine council policy. Talks could begin today in an attempt to end the strike which has paralysed the housing department.

The dispute began when the council tried to introduce new working conditions in the department. Staff walked out because the council refused to negotiate about the introduction of the new conditions which incorporate what the council calls "single status" for all staff.

That means giving the same terms and conditions to office and manual staff. The strikers say they do not oppose the principle, only the way in which the council tried to introduce it.

But the strikers see darker motives behind the council action. They belong to the National and Local Government Officers' Association (Nalgo). Mr Michael Horn, union area organizer for Sheffield, said: "What concerns me is this attempt to denigrate white-collar workers. There is this arrogant attitude that they are highly-paid loafers."

Councillors deny any prejudice against Nalgo in favour of manual unions. The leader of Sheffield City Council is Mr David Blunkett, one of the brightest of Labour's new breed of municipal politicians. While he was being voted back to the party's national executive at the Labour conference at Blackpool last week, his colleagues in Sheffield called in a private security firm to do work normally done by the strikers.

Sheffield was chosen by the Labour Party in the summer for the special national conference at which councillors and other

activists voted overwhelmingly for "non-compliance" with government policies such as rate-capping.

They also agreed that one of the keys to the success of "non-compliance" would be trust between council members and the workers they employ. Across the road from the grey facade of Sheffield Town Hall is the local office of Nalgo which has more than 600 council workers on strike. Some councillors are union members and many union members belong to the Labour Party.

"We do not question David Blunkett's integrity," Hilary Bows, a senior shop steward in the housing department, said. "But some of his colleagues in the Labour group intend to smash the union organization."

Fear has helped to fuel the dispute. Hundreds of local authority jobs are at risk in Sheffield in the next two years. The city is in South Yorkshire, the county council which is to be rate-capped next year and abolished a year later.

But the introduction of single status working is the core of the dispute.

The legal costs of divorce, which are only the tip of the wider costs of moving house and incurring an increased cost of living, vary according to the degree of disagreement involved. The more the spouse bicker, the bigger the legal bills.

The costs will also vary widely according to the part of the country and the differing overheads of solicitors, so that a basic solicitor's hourly rate could be anything from £25 to £100, and the mark-up (for the importance and complexity of the work) from 33 per cent to 60 per cent.

Costs fall into three brackets: those for the decree proceedings, those for any arguments about maintenance and assets, and for custody of and access to children.

Most divorces are not contested. For the simple, undefended divorce, there is the £40 court fee and the solicitor's own fees, if one is used. A Carlist solicitor, for example, said he would charge £90 to £100 plus value-added tax for all work involved. The total bill would be about £150. In London, and

the Home Counties, it could be £200.

The extent to which people can do the divorce on their own depends to a large degree on the helpfulness of the local court, and on the extent to which the spouses agreed. If any matters are contentious, a solicitor should be used.

The only kind of legal aid for such divorces is for the legal advice and assistance. It is strictly means-tested. If, for example, disposable income (after tax, mortgage or rent and money for dependant relatives) is between £49 and £103 a week, and disposable capital is less than £730 if there are no dependants (£930 for two

and £1,050 for three) then legal aid would be granted but contributions required.

Depending on the amount of legal aid, and what is contributed, the cost of a simple undefended divorce could be as little as £20.

The way costs are divided between the parties can depend on the grounds for divorce. The parties may agree to share the costs. But if the grounds are adultery, unreasonable behaviour or desertion, then the person seeking the divorce could ask for all costs to be paid.

The more the other issues, custody of children, property,

are contested, the more the costs rise.

An open court hearing for a defended divorce before a High Court judge could mean £1,000 or more in costs for each side. With custody and access, and property and maintenance, the more complicated the settlements, the more the cost.

At minimum, a court dispute about maintenance will cost £250 and probably be nearer £600. Custody disputes, which involve a barrister, mean a starting point of £500, going up to £1,500 for several hearings and involvement of welfare officers to anything approaching several thousand pounds.

Concluded



Mr Kenneth Clarke (left) and Mr Patrick Jenkin speaking, and Mr Francis Pym (right) listening yesterday (Photographs: John Manning).

Clarke attacks 'evil which must be beaten'

Drugs dealers to face life sentences

The maximum penalty for trafficking in heroin and cocaine is to be raised to life imprisonment in new legislation announced to the conference by Mr Kenneth Clarke, Minister for Health, when he replied to the debate on drug abuse.

He indicated that Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary, intended to do that, if possible, in his planned Criminal Justice Bill next year. Trafficking in class A drugs, such as heroin and cocaine, would carry the "life" penalty.

Mr Clarke said that the drugs evil was one which could and must be beaten. More customs staff were to be deployed against drug smuggling and doctors were to be given advice on the treatment of drug abusers and prescribing.

The conference carried a motion requesting the Government to take immediate steps to eliminate drug and solvent abuse, with particular emphasis on harsher sentences for pushers.

Mr John Atkinson, Pudsey, moving it, said children and parents were not adequately informed about the hazards of solvent sniffing and drugs. Liaison between education, health and police authorities could be improved, too.

Mr Desmond de Silva, an assistant recorder, said that many more young people were dying in squallor through drug misuse and babies were being born with a craving for drugs because their mothers were junkies. Yet the law provided a more lenient sentence for drug barons who killed, killed and killed again, than was provided for murderers, who were sentenced to life imprisonment.

Mr Richard Appleby, Staffordshire, South East, said if young people were left with an uncertain future and time on

Mr Norman Fowler, Secretary of State for Social Services, replying to the debate on the National Health Service, described the service he wanted to see.

He wanted a service: ● Where medical staff were providing the newest and best treatment which science knew and patients required;

● Building for the future and steadily replacing the Victorian monuments to the past;

● Working with the private sector and the voluntary services on new ideas for patient care;

● Where staff remembered patients had the right to be treated with respect and consideration.

Above all he wanted a health

service striving to offer better services to more patients.

The debate was opened by Mr Iain McCrow, North East Fife, who moved a resolution welcoming the increased expenditure on the health service and calling for more cost-effective ancillary services. He said that nobody could dispute that more resources had been devoted to the NHS under the Conservatives.

Mr Fowler, replying to the debate, said that during the past 12 months the hospitals had treated 100,000 more day cases, 300,000 more in-patients and more than 850,000 more out-patients. Each figure was an all-time record for the NHS.

The motion was carried unanimously.

In South America, the Far East, Pakistan.

The Government was seeking to check supplies from abroad to tighten controls on drugs produced here, to deter and detect the traffickers, to treat those who were addicted, and prevent others falling into the same trap.

Health authorities were to report before the end of the year on the scale of the drugs problems they found could be best tackled.

The Secretary of State (Mr Norman Fowler) proposed to commit £5m more to expanding efforts in prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

The Government was ready to back legislation to outlaw so-called kits for glue sniffing. It was going to give the highest priority to working out material on drugs for parents and young people.

At the end of this month the Government would be sending out guidelines to doctors on the best clinical practice for treat-

ing drug abusers. "There will be no more excuses for sloppy prescribing in future," he said.

But the main source of dangerous drugs was the illegal organized traffic from abroad.

Pakistan was probably the biggest source of heroin and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, was providing £1m over the next few years to help to promote a programme of crop substitution for the poppy farmers.

In the first eight months of this year Customs had seized more than 251 kilos of heroin, more than double the quantity in the same period last year. Some 200 people had been arrested, 60 of whom were "big fish".

This year the Government had deployed 60 extra officers in the Customs front line against drugs and he could announce that Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor, had that day given instructions that a further 100 Customs staff would be made available to reinforce customs.

From November 1 all police forces would have specialized drug units. The Metropolitan Police had diverted 50 more men to drugs investigations and regional crime squads were concentrating even more of their efforts on drugs.

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Local government finance review pledge by Jenkin

Ministers at the Department of the Environment are to take a look at the entire system of local government finance. Mr Patrick Jenkin, Secretary of State for the Environment, successfully urged support for that course of action rather than backing for a motion advocating abolition of domestic rates and replacing them with a system of local taxation. That, he pointed out, was a narrow, well-worn road which they knew led nowhere.

He added that Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister of State for Local Government, and Mr William Waldegrave, Under-Secretary of State for the Environment, would look at the way the rate support grant was distributed and at the balance between local financing and exchequer financing of council spending.

He had also asked them to see how the accountability of local authorities to their electorates could be strengthened and at how, in any new system, local revenues might best be raised from businesses as well as from householders. That was a broad and demanding remit but nothing less would do. He was as aware as anyone of the imperfections of the system.

Mr Jenkin also referred to what he called a cancer in some local councils which ran much deeper than extravagant spending. In some cities local democracy was under attack: councils squandered millions on virulent political campaigns; officers were selected for their political views; the rights of minorities were suppressed; standing orders were manipulated to stifle debate.

So what had gone wrong? The democratic conventions of local government rested upon a foundation of law whose basis went back to the nineteenth century. The question was, whether, as they neared the end of the twentieth century local government could, or should, be expected to continue on the conventions of a century ago.

For some abuses such as the plethora of political propaganda poured out by the presses of the Greater London Council, the law might not be impotent. But other issues were too complex for snap decisions or emergency Bills. They needed a dispassionate study not only of the abuses but also of the underlying changes they reflected.

He announced that when

Parliament reassembled would put to the House proposals for an inquiry into these issues. He would consult with the larger political parties and with local government. The Government was fully resolved to protect the health of local democracy.

Between 1981 and 1983 they had searched for an alternative tax to domestic rates. That failed and he feared in any further search the outcome could be exactly the same.

Having heard Mr Jenkin, the conference rejected a motion, moved by Mr Nigel Cutts, Rushcliffe, which welcomed the rate capping legislation but urged the Government to make positive steps towards the abolition of the domestic rating system, replacing it eventually with a system of local taxation which bore more fairly on a wider spread of the population.

Mr Cutts said the need to curb the excesses of the loonie left wing high spending councils only served to prove to the electorate that the rating system was unfair.

Mr Graham Dowd, Bridgend, said more important than the way money was raised by local authorities was how it was spent. The use of ratepayers' money for political ends was not confined to those authorities being abolished. There were councils providing meals for the children of striking miners at ratepayers' expense.

Mrs Emily Blatch, leader of Cambridgeshire County Council, said the existing method of domestic rating was creaking and needed to be reformed to set parameters under which local government could provide services at a price people could afford.

Mr John Campbell, Livingston, said the business ratepayer must be protected. Some form of automatic rebate, perhaps from the age of 70 onwards, might be applicable and perhaps the mythical householder with many children all earning vast salaries could be surcharged for those additional incomes. Rates should be made a prior charge before income-tax, thereby bringing everybody into the system.

Mr Philip Taylor, Henley, said it was no longer feasible to scrap the rates system and find the monies purely from central funding, but something had to be done to change the current unfair structure. Rates should cover all beneficiaries of the services offered.

He announced that when

GLC's 'last 537 days'

The Greater London Council and the metropolitan county councils will be abolished at midnight on March 31, 1986; Mr Kenneth Baker, Minister for Local Government, told conference before it carried a motion backing government policy.

He hoped the seven councils concerned would realize that between October 10, 1984, and March 31, 1986, there were 537 days - only 537 spending days left for Mr Livingstone, the GLC leader.

Mr Baker said that in the new

session of Parliament in November, the Government would bring in a Bill to transfer most of the metropolitan county and GLC services to the local councils.

Details of all these transfers were complex and the Department of the Environment was making available a question and answer brief about them.

He said the Government expected substantial savings from the abolition of the seven councils.

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Commentary



Geoffrey Smith

The least surprising event at Brighton yesterday was that Mr Michael Heseltine received a standing ovation. The Heseltine ovation has become one of the traditional features of Conservative conferences. Not only he would feel lost without it.

For some years now he has shown an uncanny ability to bring members of his party to their feet. I even saw him do it a few years ago on the first morning of a half-empty Scottish Conservative conference at Perth. Before he spoke it would have been hard to think of a significant political occasion with less atmosphere.

No current politician can match him in the art of massaging his party conference. It was never crude demagoguery. It was witty, forceful, stylish demagoguery. But then in 1981 there came a change.

Up to then he had achieved his effect by telling his audiences essentially what they wanted to hear. The resonant voice, the vivid appearance, the dramatic manner, the mockery of favourite targets, and the pleasing message proved an irresistible combination.

Plight of the inner cities

But at the Blackpool conference that year he deployed his rhetorical skills for a higher purpose. Tory gatherings do not usually like to be told of the plight of the inner cities. They do not instinctively believe that "you have to live there really to understand what three million unemployed means". They do not thrill to the reminder that the immigrant communities are British citizens who are here to stay.

The next year he showed that his 1981 speech was no aberration. Once again he directly criticized not only racial and religious prejudices, but also the inequalities of prosperity in different parts of the country. He even declared that "the provision of public service in our society is central to our Tory faith" - though it was not that part of the Tory faith that had seemed to be uppermost in the conference's mind up to then.

It is this readiness to use his oratorical powers to tell the conference what he thinks it ought to hear rather than what he knows it wants to hear that places Mr Heseltine for the moment ahead of Mr Tebbit, his closest rival as a captivator of the conference.

What then should one make of his speech yesterday? That the rhetoric was spirited almost goes without saying. But was it another example of rhetoric in service of political courage?

He poured scorn upon Labour's defence policy, as one would expect of a Conservative minister with a taste for mockery. He launched a powerful attack upon the case for unilateral nuclear disarmament. But he dealt only perfunctorily with the criticisms that are directed specifically against the Trident programme and the cruise missiles.

Formidable case against unilateralism

This was characteristic of his performance so far as Secretary of State for Defence. He has waged a formidable campaign against the principle of unilateralism, but he seems to believe that if he wins that battle argument he will have done enough to justify Trident and cruise. That is not so.

There are a good many people who believe in preserving a strong defence, who want Britain to remain an active member of a nuclear alliance, but who are not convinced of the need for these particular weapon systems. Mr Heseltine needs to make the case more positively and in greater detail for both Trident and cruise if he is to convince this significant section of opinion.

The difficulty is that the true case for cruise, in particular, is a complex one which does not lend itself readily to the simplicities of conference rhetoric. But Mr Heseltine's reputation as a conference speaker rests upon his refusal to be deterred by the difficulties which inhibit others.

It is not enough to make the case for cruise and Trident in seminars and learned journals. This argument needs to be won in public debate. It is one of the principle challenges that remains for Mr Heseltine in his present office.

Soldier tells how he burnt and buried A-bombs in the Australian desert

A former RAAF armoured soldier in Brisbane yesterday said he had burnt then buried two unused British atomic bombs in the South Australian desert in 1956.

Mr Mark Earner, aged 69, who lives in Brisbane, told the Royal Commission investigating British nuclear tests in Australia that he had been ordered to dispose of the two bombs at the end of testing at Maralinga.

He said the bombs were on a vehicle similar to a front-end loader and he and a number of other servicemen drove into the desert about 10 miles from Woomera, where they burnt then buried the devices in

From Tony Dubouin, Melbourne

trenches 10ft wide, 10ft deep and 50ft long.

Mr Earner said that he had been engaged with 45 other servicemen in assembling 11 atomic bombs shipped from England in lead-lined crates. Nine bombs were taken to a hangar for "drops".

When the two surplus bombs were burnt they left a white powdery dust. A thick black cloud of smoke shaped like an egg was emitted by the bombs. It rose more than 300ft into the air and did not seem to dissipate as it drifted north.

Interviewed outside the Royal Commission, Mr Earner said that he was sure the bombs he disposed were intact as he would have been engaged in any

dismantling work. He said that the disposal party, which he was in charge of, was not given any specific place to dispose of the bombs but just told to take them into the desert, burn them to a cinder and bury them.

Mr Earner said that when the party arrived at the place they had selected for the burial they came across an aborigine driving a tractor. They made him dig the trenches for the bombs.

He also told the commission that he helped to remove the gun turrets from a Lincoln bomber used in November, 1952, for tests at Montebello Island, off the West Australian coast.

Two poll blows for Hawke opponents

The Opposition's chances of winning the December 1 Australian Federal election, already counted as extremely unlikely, received more setbacks yesterday, only two days after the poll was announced.

The first was a Morgan Gallup opinion poll, published in the *Bulletin* magazine, which showed a trend towards Labour bordering on landslide proportions. It showed Labour's popularity had jumped from 50 per cent to 55 per cent in a week. The Coalition Oppo-

sition's popularity had slumped from 42 per cent to 37 per cent. The rest was split between the minor parties.

The size of the task facing the Opposition can best be illustrated by translating the figures to a two-party preferred vote, which would represent a swing of 6 per cent to Labour. A uniform swing of that order would mean that Labour would be returned with a majority of 82 seats. The state of the parties would be: Labour 115; Liberals 22; National Party 11.

In another poll published in the *Age* newspaper, in Melbourne, 54 per cent said they regarded Labour as better economic managers than the Liberals, a severe blow to the Liberals who have always regarded themselves as the party of business and economic management.

The approval rating for Mr Bob Hawke, the Prime Minister, however, increased by two points from the previous week to 69 per cent and his disapproval rating dropped



Horse fanciers: The Queen viewing mares with Mr William Farish (right) her host at Lane's End Farm near Lexington, Kentucky, and Mr Michael Oswald, her farm manager.

Malta's biggest strike for 20 years

From Our Correspondent Valletta

Success was being claimed yesterday for the general strike called by the Confederation of Maltese Trade Unions in protest against the Government's lock-out of teachers. Early yesterday, when the figures were still being counted, the Union of United Workers,

which represents employees in both government service and the private sector, said that 27,000 workers, or 25 per cent of the workforce, had obeyed the strike call and that the stoppage was the biggest in Malta for 20 years.

The Movement of United Bank Employees claimed that 90 per cent of its members in

the various state-controlled banks had joined the strike.

● The Minister of Justice, Dr Josef Caffer, has brought a motion before the Maltese House of Representatives deplored the fact that Mrs Margaret Thatcher would not accept British responsibility for clearing Maltese harbours of wartime wrecks and bombs.

Reforms for Unesco fail to impress Washington

Paris (NYT) - The United States has expressed dissatisfaction with proposals for improving the way Unesco operates and said it would seek to strengthen them by making additional proposals of its own.

The delegate to Unesco, Mrs Jean Gerard, told its executive board on Tuesday that the special 13-nation committee formed to consider Western criticisms of the UN agency had failed to make the kind of far-reaching recommendations needed or to propose ways of ensuring that changes it did recommend were carried out.

The United States would soon propose additional changes in several areas of operation to the 51-member executive board.

The board is meeting here to examine US and other Western complaints about Unesco and to consider changes in the way it promotes educational, cultural and scientific cooperation.

The new American demands - which include steps to keep the Western industrial members from being outvoted by the Third World majority - appear to represent the Reagan Administration's minimum conditions for remaining in the organization after the end of this year.

Mrs Gerard said the United States wanted to see a new monitoring body created within Unesco to ensure that all changes agreed by the executive board were carried out.

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China blames foreigners for talk of dissent

From David Bonavia Peking

Mr Hu Yaobang, General Secretary of the Chinese Communist Party, has criticized foreigners who say there are "antagonistic views" in the party about the present economic reforms.

"That is not true," he told visiting Japanese politicians. "The thinking of some comrades has lagged behind developments. Those who are against reform are few."

Mr Hu also said: "The reform does not concern the fundamental system of socialism, which China will stick to, nor does it concern only individual systems. It concerns a series of concrete systems in the field of economic management."

The economic reforms begun in 1979 centre round private farming and quasi-capitalistic enterprise in agriculture, and managerial reform. The farm reforms have been fairly successful, but the industrial reforms have been less so because of entrenched bureaucratic interests.

German defence secrets found

Stockholm, (Reuters) - Sweden has seized stolen computer tapes containing vital West German military information during a customs raid, Swedish security police sources said yesterday.

They were commenting on a report in the Stockholm independent daily newspaper *Dagens Nyheter* that said the tapes had been copied at an unidentified West German state computer centre on behalf of an unnamed Eastern block country. The information included satellite intelligence.

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INDEX-LINKED CERTIFICATES

Spanish envoy released unharmed after Beirut kidnap ordeal

By Our Foreign Staff

The Spanish Ambassador to Lebanon, Señor Pedro Aristegui, was freed last night after a few hours after he was kidnapped by two men armed with assault rifles half a mile from the Embassy in west Beirut.

There was no immediate indication about what was responsible for the kidnapping. Señor Aristegui was on his way home when he was seized by the men at 3.50pm local time.

It was the fifth kidnapping of a diplomat in the mostly Muslim sector of the city since the start of the year, and it came less than a month after the shadowy Jihad Islami, or Islamic Holy War group issued a threat against Spain.

The embassy said that two men armed with Kalashnikovs, stopped the Ambassador's car, forced him into a waiting green Mercedes and sped off.

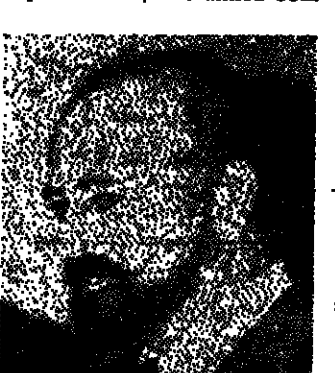
A Lebanese police guard at the Embassy said that the Ambassador had been offered a police escort to his home in the Christian suburb of Hadath, about three miles to the south-east of the Embassy, but had refused.

"The Ambassador said there was no need for an escort," the policeman said. "He got behind

the wheel himself and he and the chauffeur drove off. About 10 minutes later, the driver came running back to report the abduction."

Spanish diplomats have been worried about security in recent weeks. In mid-September, all seven diplomats of Spain's Embassy here moved out of their residence after the Jihad Islami threat.

The threat, telephoned to a news agency in Beirut on September 15, was aimed both



Señor Aristegui: Threats against Spain.

at the Spanish and the American Embassy in Beirut. Five days later, the US Embassy "amen" in the suburb of Ankar, east of the capital was devastated in a truck-bomb attack.

The anonymous telephone caller said that Jihad Islami claimed responsibility for "what happened in Marbella." This apparently was a reference to the killing of a Saudi Arabian engineer and wounding of his companion in the Spanish city on September 14.

The caller also demanded that two Lebanese men, arrested in Madrid in connexion with the shooting of a Libyan diplomat, be released.

MADRID: The decision to move diplomats out of the Embassy last month was taken, according to reports here, after tip-off from the CIA that members of the Islamic fundamentalist Musa Sadr Brigades were plotting to kidnap Señor Aristegui of a member of his staff (Richard Wigg writes).

The Ambassador established contact with Lebanon's Shia Mufti Abdul Amir Kabalan, and the Amal militia and it was decided it would be safe to reopen the Embassy.

Refugee aid blocked by Israelis

Beirut (AFP) - The Israeli Army is preventing United Nations food and medical aid from reaching Palestinian refugees in south Lebanon, the UN Relief and Works Agency (Unrwa) said yesterday.

Mr William Lee, the agency's spokesman, said that since September 19 no Unrwa vehicle had been allowed to cross the only point into south Lebanon at Batei, 30 miles south of the capital. Even ambulances had been turned back.

Three weeks ago the Army tightened regulations for crossing into Israeli-occupied south Lebanon, forcing goods to be transferred to another vehicle already on the occupied side, and obliging people to walk four miles.

Mr Lee said that though the agency considered that its vehicles should be exempt from the Israeli rule it had agreed to secure a special permit for each.

He complained, however, that despite these concessions on Unrwa's part, a vehicle from the capital had again been turned back on Monday along with an ambulance from Tyre.

Happy Peres flies to see Mondale

From Mohsin Ali, Washington

President Reagan has promised Mr Shimon Peres, the Israeli Prime Minister, more American economic support for Israel's ailing economy and has received from him politically potent praise as a "true friend of Israel."

Mr Peres yesterday ended three days of talks on Israel's economic recovery programme, the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon, and prospects for Middle East peace.

It was Mr Peres's first visit to Washington since becoming Prime Minister. He flew to New York yesterday to meet Mr Walter Mondale, the Democratic presidential candidate.

President Reagan said after a two-hour meeting at the White House with Mr Peres on Tuesday, that ties between the United States and Israel remained unbreakable and continued to grow stronger.

Mr Peres said yesterday that the US had agreed to provide economic aid of \$1.2bn (960m) in the first quarter of the fiscal year 1985, rather than spreading payments over 12 months.

President Reagan stood by his deadline September 1, 1982 Middle East peace initiative which called on Jordan to enter negotiations on Palestinian autonomy. Mr Peres, in a television interview, did not rule out dialogue with Jordan.

The Reagan Administration is keenly awaiting the outcome of the visit of President Mubarak of Egypt to Jordan.

TEL AVIV: Prominent members of Mr Peres's Cabinet said yesterday that the promised American economic help would not relieve the Israeli Government and people of prime responsibility for the country's economic recovery (Moshe Brilliant writes).

Mr Gad Yaakobi, Minister of Economic Planning, said the American gestures which included transferring the entire annual economic grant in one lump sum, instead of in instalments, would ease Israel's foreign currency predicament but, he added, "What matters more is what's being done here in this country."

PLO heads Amman agenda

Amman (Reuters, AP) - President Mubarak of Egypt said in Amman yesterday that he had discussed with King Husain the prospects of finding a just solution to the Palestinian issue, according to the official Jordanian news agency. The President was on the second day of a three-day state visit.

The agency quoted Mr Mubarak as telling reporters: "Jordan is a principal element in the Palestinian cause by virtue of its organic link with this just cause."

He urged the Palestinians to

unite "so that efforts being made for a just settlement of your cause do not go to waste." The President was apparently referring to splits within the PLO over the leadership of Mr Yasser Arafat, whom Syrian-backed groups want to remove.

At a banquet hosted by the King in Mr Mubarak's honour on Tuesday night, the Egyptian leader mentioned peace strategy while praising Jordan's resumption of ties with Cairo, Egypt and Jordan resumed diplomatic ties two weeks ago after a five-year break.

"Unity of words is our path and establishment of justice and peace our goal. You (Husain) have valiantly opened the door for unifying positions and for a fresh struggle under a peace strategy," Mr Mubarak said.

His remarks were widely seen as the clearest indication yet that an important purpose of Jordan's restoration of ties with Egypt was to create a united front to press for Middle East peace.

The King said Jordan was firm about upholding the legality of the PLO

The miners' strike comes to Strasbourg



Flying the flag: British Euro MPs in Strasbourg holding aloft a Welsh miners' lodge banner when they attempted to break through the rules of a procedure and introduce a discussion on the strike.

Botha angry at Labour mission

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Mr R. F. Botha, the South African Foreign Minister, loosed another diplomatic salvo at Britain yesterday over its handling of the Durban consulate affair.

He gave a warning that a proposed visit to the consulate by an emissary of Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, would be regarded by Pretoria as a breach of international law.

Mr Kinnock has announced that he intends sending Mr Donald Anderson, a barrister and Methodist lay preacher who is the Opposition spokesman on Southern African affairs, to South Africa next weekend to hold talks with the three political fugitives still sheltering in the British consulate.

Mr Botha learnt of the Anderson visit only hours after he had sent a sharply worded aide memoire to London complaining about an interview with the fugitives shown on Independent Television on Sunday night.

The consulate staff were unaware that the interview - conducted via a radio microphone smuggled on to the premises - had taken place.

Mr Botha said that Mr Anderson did not require a visa to come to South Africa, he added: "While the South African Government has said it would welcome fact-finding missions by leading members of the British Labour Party, it feels constrained to call attention in this instance to the blatantly political nature and purpose of Mr Anderson's intended visit."

By allowing Mr Anderson access to the consulate to visit the three South African nationals still granted illegal refuge, the British Government will be in further breach of its solemn international obligations and undertakings.

LONDON: Britain has told the three political fugitives that it takes a "very serious view" of the clandestine interview given by one of them to a television reporter (Henry Stanhope writes).

Mr Simon Davey, the Consul, who has been playing reluctant host since the Durban South sought sanctuary there last month, has demanded new assurances that it will not happen again.

The Foreign Office emphasized last night that there was no change in the Government's policy.

Tokyo's four points for Gulf peace

From Zdzislaw Fyszwski, New York

Iraq sees ships as fair game



GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Iraq has said that it will continue to attack foreign vessels approaching the Iranian oil terminal on Kharg Island, as well as the installation itself, despite international protests and efforts to ensure free navigation in the Gulf.

Mr Tariq Aziz, the Iraqi Foreign Minister, said in an address in New York that the blame for the death of two British officers in the Iraqi air attack on the supertanker World Knight on Monday lay with Britain for continuing to deal with Iraq.

Countries which continued to import Iranian oil, such as Britain, Japan and West Germany, were simply funding Iraq's oil coffers and should not expect anything less from Iraq.

The Iraqi threat came after Japan put forward a four-point proposal for phasing out the Gulf war. Experts believe it provides the only realistic basis for bringing Iraq and Iran to an accommodation.

Combining the immediate interests of both sides, the plan dispenses with the need for formal negotiations.

The plan's first point

limited ceasefire to halt attacks on civilian targets, is already largely effective through the efforts of Señor Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the UN Secretary-General.

The proposals then call for a commitment by Iraq to forgo further use of chemical weapons. The military supplies pouring into Iraq from the Soviet Union and other countries have sharply reduced its need to rely on chemical weapons.

United Nations confirmation that chemical weapons were used has partially met Iraq's political need for the international community, however indirectly, to identify Iraq as the aggressor.

The remaining aspects of the Japanese package are a pledge by both sides to allow free navigation in the Gulf, meaning an end to Iraqi attempts to blockade Kharg Island, and an agreement by Iran to permit the dredging and reopening of Iraqi ports and harbours.

Each country could satisfy its honour by interpreting some of the points, for domestic reasons, as an overt surrender on the other side, or choosing other points to remain as tacit understandings.

Mr Luce has found the Japanese eager to play a part in the Middle East along side countries like Britain.

There is no question at this time of Japanese vessels patrolling the Gulf. Although a recent Japanese-American study suggested that Japan should start dispatching its forces abroad on peace-keeping missions, Mr Abe has denied any such intention.

Hurricane threat to Challenger

From Our Correspondent, Washington

Hurricane Josephine, with winds of 85 mph about 500 miles east of the Florida coast, was causing concern to Challenger mission control officials last night as it drifted northwards.

They were monitoring the storm closely because if it headed westward towards Florida it could delay Challenger's planned landing on Saturday at the Kennedy Space Centre on the Atlantic coast.

The spacewalk, due today, by Kathryn Sullivan and David Lee, may be delayed by a day if Challenger's landing is put off and the mission extended to nine days from the scheduled eight. It will be the first by an American woman.

Officials said they would be watching the hurricane closely before deciding what to do. President Reagan is due to talk to the crew today.

US to seek extradition of arms case Britons

Chicago (AP) - Two men from the Chicago area, charged with conspiring with three Britons to ship military parts to Iran, are expected to surrender to authorities later this week, US Federal officials said.

Mr William Fowler and Mr George Veio were charged on Tuesday in a 20-count indictment with attempting to export implements of war from the United States without the necessary licences, and with falsifying export-control documents, the officials said on Tuesday.

Mr David Sofaer, and Mr Howard Freckleton of London and Mr Gerald McDevitt of Surrey also were charged with the crimes in the indictment which alleged they were acting on behalf of Iranian military procurement offices in London.

The Justice Department would pursue the extradition of the men from England, Mr Allen Wilk, a US Customs officer in Chicago, said.

The two Americans were charged with shipping spare parts for Iranian ships, helicopters and fighter aircraft to the other three men between June 1982 and February 1984, officials said.

In January, Customs agents at O'Hare international airport, Chicago, secretly intercepted aircraft parts which were being sent to London by Mr Fowler and Mr Veio, the indictments said. The agents replaced the parts with dog food, equal to the weight of the shipment, and then sent it to London, where it is alleged they traced it to the three British men, an assistant US attorney in Chicago said.

Kasparov helped by Karpov's insipid opening

Moscow (Reuters) - Anatoly Karpov, the reigning champion surprised grandmasters observing the eleventh game of the world chess championship match yesterday by choosing a new opening variation which many of them described as insipid.

Karpov, playing white, used the Rait opening, noted for leading into quiet positional games.

The decision made him come as a surprise and a relief to Gary Kasparov, the challenger, who has lost his two previous games with the black pieces.

Karpov leads 4-0 in the series.

Eleventh game			
White Karpov		Black Kasparov	
1-10-82	0-1-82	1-10-82	0-1-82
2-10-82	0-1-82	2-10-82	0-1-82
3-10-82	0-1-82	3-10-82	0-1-82
4-10-82	0-1-82	4-10-82	0-1-82
5-10-82	0-1-82	5-10-82	0-1-82
6-10-82	0-1-82	6-10-82	0-1-82
7-10-82	0-1-82	7-10-82	0-1-82
8-10-82	0-1-82	8-10-82	0-1-82
9-10-82	0-1-82	9-10-82	0-1-82
10-10-82	0-1-82	10-10-82	0-1-82
11-10-82	0-1-82	11-10-82	0-1-82
12-10-82	0-1-82	12-10-82	0-1-82
13-10-82	0-1-82	13-10-82	0-1-82
14-10-82	0-1-82	14-10-82	0-1-82
15-10-82	0-1-82	15-10-82	0-1-82
16-10-82	0-1-82	16-10-82	0-1-82
17-10-82	0-1-82	17-10-82	0-1-82

Leading article, page 13

Blinded wife to cut out husband's eyes

By Hazhir Telsomarian

The hopes of millions of Iranians that the zeal of the Islamic leaders might diminish with time have evaporated with the decision of an Islamic court to allow a jealous husband to be blinded by his wife as punishment for blinding her.

According to reports from Tehran, the act may be televised. Mrs Maryam Zavarei, aged 22 has already chosen the instrument she will use: a pair of scissors.

Mrs Zavarei says she was forced by her family to marry Mr Tahvil Zavarei when she was only 12 and he 14.

She told the Tehran press that her husband recently drove her to the desert outside the city to enable her to visit their children, over whom he has custody. There he let out two men from the car boot and, while they held her down, he removed her eyes with a knife.

The court decided she was entitled to similarly blind him.

French clampdown on illegal migrants

From Diana Geddes, Paris

In response to the rising tide of racism in France, which is being so successfully exploited by the extreme right, the Government announced new measures yesterday, to crack down on illegal immigrants.

From now on, members of the family of an immigrant already resident in France will not be allowed to join him on a visitor's visa, while awaiting authorization for permanent residence, but will have to

obtain the necessary papers before his departure from his country of origin.

Airlines will be asked to check at the moment of embarkation that passengers have the correct papers permitting their entry into France. In addition, the strength of frontier and airport police are to be increased by about 1,000.

Any foreigner found to have entered French territory illegally, or who does not possess

Nicaragua loses loans from World Bank

Washington (AP) - The World Bank has cut off \$2m worth of loans to Nicaragua because it has fallen behind by 90 days in repaying some of its debt, a spokesman said.

The bank is talking to the Nicaraguans in the hope of getting them to resume regular payments.

Push-button sun house

Paris - What is believed to be the world's first rotating house, which can be turned to face the Sun or the shade by pressing a button, has been built by its French inventor, M Francois Labbe in the village of Saint-Isidore, near Nice (Diana Geddes writes).

The all-metal house, constructed on a central pivot through which essential supplies such as gas, water and electricity, are piped, has attracted foreign interest.

Civilian prison for junta chief

Buenos Aires (Reuters) - An Argentine court has ordered the former president, General Jorge Videla, and a member of his former ruling military junta to be transferred to a civilian prison pending trial on charges of human rights violations, court sources said.

General Videla and the retired Admiral Emilio Massera were awaiting court martial in military barracks.

Russian protest over arrest

Oslo (Reuters) - The Soviet Union has protested to Norway over the arrest and detention by police of a Soviet diplomat's wife for attempting to cash and allegedly fake \$500 bill.

The Soviet Embassy accused security police of provocation and of violating diplomatic immunity.

Stepping down

Toronto (NYT) - Mr William Davis, Premier of Ontario, has announced his intention to resign after 13 years in office. The Tory leader, aged 55, said he would remain until a leadership convention he had requested for January. He will then continue to sit in the provincial Parliament until an election is held.

Airport reopens

Reykjavik, (AP) - The University of Iceland reopened after an airport blockade by pickets was lifted yesterday during the seventh day of a government employees' strike.

Jail transfer

Madrid - the three suspected ETA terrorists extradited by France to Spain have been transferred to Alcalá high-security jail outside Madrid from the Carabanchel prison where they await preparations for their trials on murder charges.

Smoking curb

Los Angeles (Reuters) - Employers in Los Angeles who fail to provide non-smoking areas for their workers could go to jail for up to six months under a by-law.

Belize plea

New York (Reuters) - Belize yesterday urged neighbouring Guatemala to abandon what it called "false claims" to Belize's territory. Guatemala calls Belize a province.

Passenger burnt

Melbourne, (Reuters) - An Australian man aged 25 set himself alight in the lavatory of a Philippine Air Lines DC-10 on a flight from Manila, police said.

3-D Kung Fu

Peking (Reuters) - A Chinese film crew has started shooting the country's first three-dimensional Kung Fu movie, a Sino-Japanese called *The Chivalrous Woman Shismei*.

Gorbachov at centre of Soviet leadership changes

From Richard Owen, Moscow

There is speculation in Moscow that Mr Mikhail Gorbachov, the Number 2 in the Kremlin, may be relieved of his responsibilities as secretary in charge of agriculture at the forthcoming Central Committee plenum. But opinions differ on whether this would improve or reduce his chances of succeeding the ailing President Chernenko as Soviet leader.

Senior Soviet officials confirmed this week that a plenum would be convened later this month, in addition to the regular Central Committee session next month on the eve of the meeting of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament). Tuesday, October 23, has been mentioned as a likely date.

The special plenum will discuss agriculture, according to some sources, although others say the new party programme and "organizational matters" are on the agenda as well. This could involve changes in the 12-man Politburo.

Mr Chernenko's position as General-Secretary is not now thought to be in doubt. Since rumours of the Soviet leader's physical and political weakness arose in August and September, Mr Chernenko has been built up in the Soviet media to underline his formal authority.

Yesterday, Pravda carried a full account of his talks with President Ali Abdullah Saleh of North Yemen, which were also featured on state television.

Mr Gorbachov, although by far the youngest Politburo

member at 53, is the most powerful challenger for the leadership. He controls cadres (appointments), as well as agriculture, and has overall

responsibility for economic matters as well as a say in ideology.

A high-level exposure of agricultural shortcomings could be used against Mr Gorbachov. On the other hand, he might be glad not to have the traditional millstone of Soviet politics hanging round his neck.

"If he was free of farming problems, Gorbachov could concentrate on more general matters," one Kremlin watcher said. "He could act as general secretary in all but name."

Mr Gorbachov made the main speech at a Central Committee conference of regional secretaries in March, but there was no mention of a plenum on agriculture, suggesting that it has been convened at short notice.

250,000 at Taipei rally hear president's pledge

Taipei (AP) - Taiwan yesterday celebrated the seventy-third anniversary of the foundation of the Republic of China with a president Chiang Ching-Kuo dedicating his Government's dedication to eliminating communism from China and enabling mainland Chinese to regain freedom. The 74-year-old President made a brief appearance at a rally attended by 250,000.

The nationalist regime, which fled to Taiwan in 1949 after the communist takeover on the mainland, has rejected Peking's proposals for Taiwan's peaceful reunification with the mainland.

HANOI: China ignored ceremonies marking the twentieth anniversary of Ho Chi Minh's communist capture of Hanoi, and kept its Ambassador away.

The Ambassador did not come because of the unpleasant remarks which were made yesterday about China.

French clampdown on illegal migrants

From Diana Geddes, Paris

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محاذم الأنجل

500 years of Christianity in Americas

Pope in the footsteps of Columbus

From Peter Nichols

Rome. The Pope sets foot today in the Dominican Republic following this time in the footsteps of Christopher Columbus, rather than the shoes of the Fisherman, as he opens solemn celebrations marking the five-hundredth anniversary of the arrival of Christianity in the Americas.

He is, of course, nine years before time. Columbus made his landfall there on the night of October 11, 1492, and the first Mass in the New World was celebrated on the Feast of the Epiphany in 1494 in what he named "Hispaniola".

But the intention of the Pope and, in particular, of the Latin American bishops, is to have a long period of festivities culminating in a special jubilee year for Central and South America.

In this, the Pope is following the example of the late Cardinal Wyszyński who, when celebrating the thousandth anniversary of the conversion of Poland to Christianity, spread the commemoration over nine years. The Pope is by no means prepared to ignore a good Polish example.

The journey is his twenty-fourth outside Italy, one of his briefest in terms of time, yet eagerly awaited. His overnight stop last night at Saragossa was arranged to meet King Juan Carlos's personal request to recognize



Father Boff: In vanguard of liberation theology.

Spain's crucial role in taking Catholicism to what became known, as a consequence, as Latin America.

He is now scheduled to spend an afternoon and evening in Santo Domingo, and then briefly visit Puerto Rico before returning to Rome. It is a highly concentrated journey of deep historical importance and of immediate contemporary significance.

This will be the second time the Pope has been to Santo Domingo. He stopped there in January, 1979, on his way to Mexico on the first leg of his first journey as Pope, and he recalled then that it was there that "the first cross was placed, the first Mass celebrated and the first Ave Maria said".

This time the visit is much more solemn. Waiting to meet him will be all the cardinals of Latin America with the chairmen of the episcopal conferences of Spain, Portugal, the United States, the Philippines and the countries of Latin America.

He meets them in the midst of the controversy over "liberation theology" - the approach to the Church's role in Latin American affairs devised largely by Latin American theologians - which has come under heavy criticism from Rome.

Last month, the Brazilian theologian, Father Leonardo Boff, was summoned to Rome to explain some concepts in his latest work.

At the same time, the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith, the former Holy Office, issued an "instruction" pointing to alleged errors in the work of some liberation theologians, including dependence on Marxist methods of argument.

The Pope upheld his own opinion that ideological methods could not be allowed to enter theological discussion. But he was relatively mild to the extent that some writers saw his call as a mediation between the bishops and the Congregation.

In the end the Peruvians and the Congregation, after some

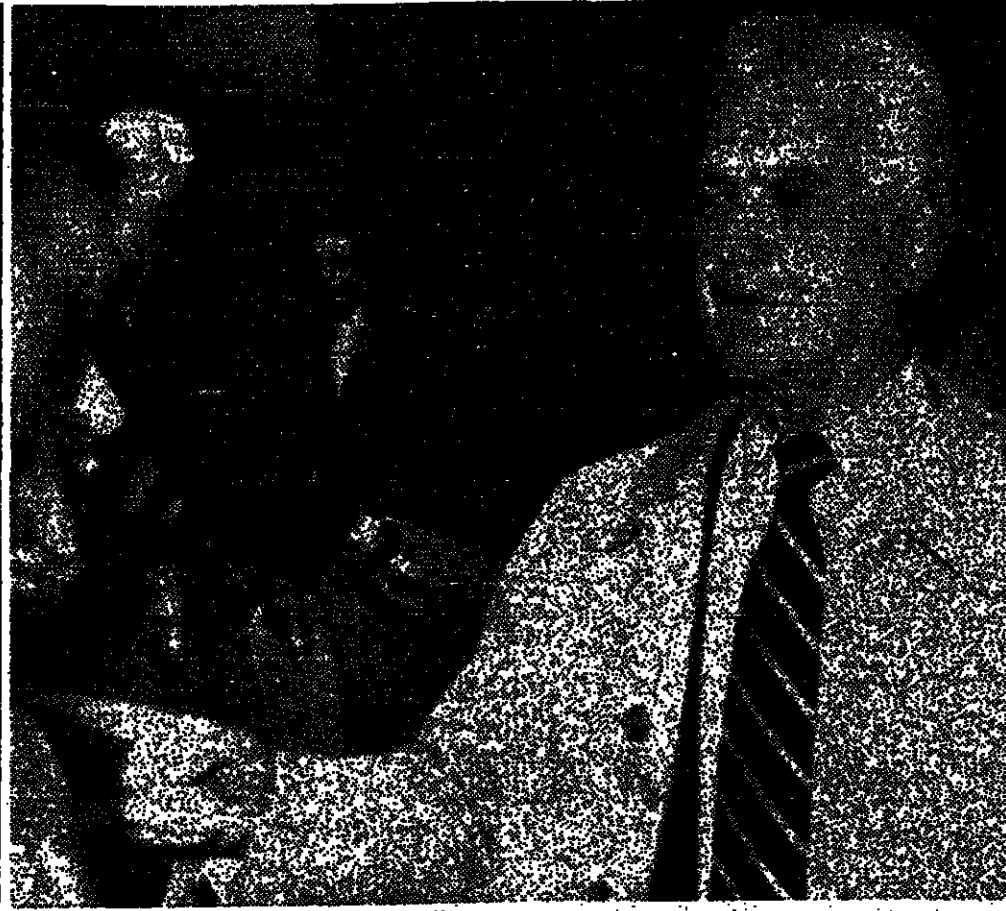
tense discussion, managed to agree, rather surprisingly, of a final document which will be published once the Pope has approved it.

The Pope has still to see the solution of the problem of the three priests holding ministries in the Nicaraguan Government who have been instructed to resign on the ground that such office is incompatible with the priesthood.

One, Father Fernando Cardenal, is a Jesuit, and there had been hopes that the Jesuits would have been able to conclude the affair in the course of a meeting this week of provincials with Father Peter-Hans Kolvenbach, the Jesuit Father General, who is at the moment in Latin America.

Last February the general began arrangements for a meeting of Jesuit provincials in Central and northern Latin America and chose Santo Domingo as the place. In the meantime the Pope decided to go to Santo Domingo apparently unaware of the general's plans.

The Jesuits preferred, however, to go elsewhere, shifting their talks to Caracas. Not everyone perhaps can happily countenance nine years of festivities, and some of the Jesuits in Central America have inclined towards the liberation theology themselves.



Court battle: General William Westmoreland, the former US commander in Vietnam, leaving the federal courthouse in New York after jury selection began for his libel action against CBS television over a report on the war.

El Greco gets Greek President's attention

From Harry Debellus

Madrid. President Constantine Karamanlis of Greece dedicated much of his attention yesterday on the next to last day of his official visit to Spain, to another Greek - El Greco.

He visited the El Greco museum in Toledo, where many of the masterpieces painted by Theotokopoulos, the Greek artist who made his name in Spain and went down in history, because of his difficult name, as simply El Greco, are on display.

Another prominent Greek was the president's hostess on Tuesday night: Queen Sofia of Spain. At the formal dinner in his honour given by King Juan Carlos and the Queen, Mr Karamanlis recalled that he had known both of them since their youth, and he said: "I'm pleased because my plans and wishes for their future have been fully justified by developments."

In speeches at the dinner, neither the Greek President nor the King made any direct reference to Mr Karamanlis's action when he headed the Greek Government following the end of the dictatorship. He then put the question to the Greek people in a referendum as to whether the country should be a republic or a monarchy. Greece rejected the monarchy and thus the chances of Queen Sofia's brother, King Constantine, of recovering his throne vanished.

At the dinner, the President said he was happy that his country supported Spain's efforts to enter the EEC. He also expressed confidence in "the great role which Europe can play in strengthening international peace".

He added, however, that European countries gave the impression of being afraid of precisely what can save Europe.

Thai troops quit villages on border

From Neil Kelly

Bangkok

Thailand has withdrawn most of its forces from three disputed villages in its northern border with Laos, according to a Foreign Ministry spokesman who said last night that the Army was expected to withdraw the remainder shortly.

Since the start of the dispute, Laos has insisted that progress towards a settlement was impossible while Thai soldiers occupied the villages which are claimed by both countries.

The withdrawal has gone ahead despite reports by Thai officials on the spot that Laotian artillery is continuing to shell the villages.

These developments coincided with statements by Thailand and Laos to a special meeting of the United Nations Security Council in New York. Laos accused Thailand of military aggression and expansionism. Thailand invited the UN Secretary-General to send a fact-finding mission to the border and said it was ready to accept impartial arbitration.

The Security Council adjourned without any decision. Despite the bitter border dispute the annual boat races between Laos and Thailand are going ahead. These are designed to foster friendship between the two countries and are taking place on the Mekong River.

Eight Turks killed in Kurd ambush

From Rasit Gurdilek, Ankara

Eight Turkish soldiers were killed, and another soldier and a non-commissioned officer were injured in an ambush on Tuesday as their vehicle passed near the town of Cukurca on Turkey's border with Iraq, it was announced here yesterday.

The attack is believed to have been carried out by Kurdish separatist guerrillas forming the military wing of the illegal Kurdish Labour Party (PKK).

The ambush came a week after a similar attack in which an officer, and NCO, and a soldier were killed. That attack coincided with a visit to the area by President Evren.

Tuesday's ambush coinciding this time with a visit by Mr Turgut Ozal, the Prime Minister, to the region, was reportedly accompanied by clashes between troops and guerrillas in Adiyaman and Agri near by.

Mr Ozal echoed President Evren in blaming unnamed foreign enemies for instigating ethnic unrest.

A brigadier general in charge of border security told the Prime Minister that difficulties of communication in the mountainous area precluded effective combat.

He said that a 10-mile stretch of territory in northern Iraq was "a lair of criminals".

German couple on spy charge

From Michael Binyon, Bonn

An insurance manager, aged 54, from Trier, and his wife, aged 42, have appeared before a special court charged with spying for East Germany.

The charges come as police are still investigating the mysterious disappearance of a lawyer in the Bavarian Finance Ministry who is thought to have been linked with the spy who gave away secrets of the Tornado combat aircraft.

The Trier couple were arrested in November on charges of systematically spying out German and American military installations in the area, and

giving the East German Ministry of State Security information about members of the Army or police they got to know.

The man, whose name has not been disclosed, is said to have received training in East Germany and was sent to Strasbourg with a new identity in 1964. A year later he moved to Trier, and began spying with his wife after their marriage in 1968.

The disappearance of Herr Hartmut Goers from his office in Munich is more potentially damaging and embarrassing to

Bonn as there appears to be a connexion with the arrest of Herr Manfred Rotsch, the engineer at Messerschmitt-Bölkow-Blohm (MBB) aerospace, on charges of spying for the Soviet Union.

The lawyer reported sick the day after Herr Rotsch was arrested, and has since vanished with his wife and two children. The Bavarian Finance Ministry said Herr Goers did not have access to classified material, but Herr Rotsch is thought to have severely damaged Western security by revealing plans for a new five-nation fighter aircraft.

Indonesian ex-minister arrested

From Our Correspondent

Jakarta

Security forces have arrested Mr H. Muhammad Sanusi, a former Home Industries Minister and one of the signatories of a statement for a commission of inquiry into the Tanjung Priok riots in which 18 people died last month.

Reliable sources in the group of 50, a loose organization of retired civil servants, academics and generals disaffected with some aspects of the Suharto Government, told *The Times* that Mr Sanusi, who is 64, was arrested at his home in Jakarta between 11pm and midnight on Tuesday.

Most of the other 21 signatories have been undergoing intensive questioning by district attorneys since Monday.

Indo-Pakistan tensions

Peace pact on ice until after elections

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Relations between India and Pakistan, which generally fluctuate between open hostility and guarded friendliness, are taking a downward curve. While both sides have expressed a desire to reach a non-aggression pact, India is putting everything on ice, at least until after the forthcoming elections.

Indian officials are still bitterly sore at Pakistan over the training camps they believe exist across the border from Punjab and Rajasthan where Sikh terrorists receive instruction in murder and mayhem. The belief was expressed forcefully a few days ago by Mr M.M.K. Wali, the senior civil servant in the Home Ministry, who said in Srinagar that India now has sufficient evidence to prove it.

The belief was given a further impetus yesterday with a report that as the armed forces searched various lockers in the offices of the management committee of the Golden Temple of Amritsar before handing the buildings back to officials. They found Pakistan currency notes and rounds of ammunition marked as originating at the Pakistan ordnance factory.

The subject was said to have been at issue when a senior Indian External Affairs official, Mr Gopalaswamy Parthasarathy, met the Pakistan Foreign Minister, Sahasrabada Yaqub Khan in New York. The latter is reported to have asked whether the dialogue towards a non-

aggression pact or a treaty of peace and friendship could be resumed. He was told that India needed to be convinced of his country's good intentions, and that handing back the hijackers would be convinced of his country's good intentions, and that handing back the hijackers would be as good as a token as possible.

Sahasrabada Yaqub said that he was not able to do that and was brusquely told that the United Arab Emirates had managed to do so.

A visit to India by the Pakistan Planning Minister due last month has not happened, and arrangements made earlier in the year during a visit to Islamabad by the Indian Information Minister for an exchange of radio and newspaper correspondents have still not come to fruition.

Under these circumstances the constant irritant of border incidents along the line of actual control between the two parts of Kashmir tend to become inflated beyond their real importance. Shots have been fired a number of times in recent months in the high glaciers and also lower down the line.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi, the son of the Indian Prime Minister, has allowed himself to suggest that there could be a real outbreak of hostilities before long. Available indications are that some sabre-rattling is likely before the elections to Parliament, but that progress may well resume afterwards.

Sofia executes bomber

Sofia (Reuters) - A man was executed in Bulgaria for sending parcel bombs which killed five people and injured nine, Sofia radio reported yesterday.

Quoting an announcement from the chief prosecutor's office, it said Plamen Antonov Penchev, from Sevlievo in central Bulgaria, was sentenced to death by the Supreme Court on July 4. It did not say when he was executed.

The parcel bombs were sent in Sevlievo and Gorna Oryakhovitsa in the north-east. The radio gave no details of the bomb victims or the attacker's motives.

Earlier, Sofia-based Western diplomats had told journalists that bombs exploded in Plovdiv and several other Bulgarian cities throughout the summer. This was denied by the authorities when journalists sought confirmation.

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SPECTRUM

'Praises of the best-Irish-poet-since-Yeats variety make him squirm. He bears an Irish literary tradition that is at once a crown and a yoke'

Poet, pilgrim, fugitive . . .

The Times Profile: Seamus Heaney

Seamus Heaney lives in a large, Edwardian house in south Dublin, facing the bay, and near Sandymount, the birthplace of W. B. Yeats. Joyce's Martello Tower is a short car ride away, and Joyce "appears" twice in Heaney's new book. Fires burn in the Heaney home; there are big soft sofas, books and pictures; the atmosphere is comfortable and welcoming.

Marie Heaney (the subject of many intense love poems, often written when he is away from her) is the lovely, intelligent wife who guards her husband's time and his reputation, yet offers to the outsider the warm hospitalities of her Devlin clan. Marie in the kitchen making spinach soup, the two bright teenage sons, Michael and Christopher, watching Paula Yates in *The Tube*, the enchanting Catherine Ann, 12, giggling with a friend . . . all this laps around Heaney, delighting the 45-year-old poet at the height of his powers.

Yet *Station Island*, his sixth book of poetry, but the first after a five-year gap, contains very little of laughter or comfort, nor rhetoric, nor affectionate nostalgia. To read it is to stalk a different Heaney through the covers of his imagination, and out into a wintry landscape.

Praises of the "best-Irish-poet-since-Yeats" variety make him squirm. He bears an Irish literary tradition that is at once a crown and a yoke; the star poet who was once a country lad is uncomfortable with both accoutrements. Very influenced as a student by T. S. Eliot's seminal essay "Tradition and the Individual Talent," Heaney laughs wryly that, despite the tradition he is an individual talent. Please.

In fact, Yeats has little

relevance. Heaney's first masters were the Anglo-Saxon poets, and Gerard Manley Hopkins. His new book owes more to the former than the latter, with echoes too of Eliot and Dante. The texture of the verse is plainer than before, and deeply personal. It is a brilliant, ruminative quest backwards and forwards in time, a pilgrimage during which the only sustenance is roots.

Heaney was the son of a Roman Catholic farmer and cattle dealer in Co. Derry, the oldest of nine children. Home was a thatched house in a place called Mossbawn, and the first essay in his volume *Preoccupations* describes it lushly and softly, like the bog that was all around. That Heaney household was not at all literary; words impinged only in the form of the catechism, the radio weather forecasts ("Dogger, Rockall, Malin, Irish Sea"), and the old Ulster rhymes of division — loyalist, and nationalist.

Despite the camaraderie of brothers and sisters, Heaney says, "I think I spent a lot of my time just standing looking, gazing with eyes and ears open, timorously. The inner place of your first being is a large solitary gaze out on the world. In that sense I was certainly a solitary child." Years later the memories came back: the grandfather cutting turf, the father bending over potato drills, whilst the boy Seamus was told "Aye, the pen's easily

The clever son won a scholarship to St Columba's boarding school in Londonderry, where he was acutely homesick: "Certainly it set me apart from my family." Then it was another scholarship to Queen's University Belfast, a First in English — and the seal was set upon him. Such passages cut you off from your roots, inevitably; thus loosened, you float guiltily between worlds, belonging nowhere. Heaney says he started teaching with "a sense of not having defined anything." He felt inadequate, with no confidence in himself or in the world. The poetry came then — out of that quarrel with himself. "I felt it was a path I could follow, towards some self-justification, some kind of verification."

It is impossible for anyone growing up in Northern Ireland to remain unaffected by what Heaney calls "the submerged cultural politics", as well as the surface divisions of history and bigotry. "I have two inheritances, although that is too haughty and big a word. (Always he gives unpretentious disclaimers). "There is the desire to get on in the world of books, and of writing in English. But then there was another kind of effort — to be in touch with the Irish thing itself. I learnt the Irish language, and there was a strong sense of otherness, of alternative tradition. And of course there was the political disaffection from Unionism, so that the sense of linking oneself to Irish roots was congruent with that disaffection."

Seamus Heaney has remarked that being a poet in Belfast in a group of highly talented writers, in the late 1960s was a stretching experience. Poetry gave tongue to the experience and confusion of the people. It finds its strongest utterance in his volume "North" (winner of the W. H. Smith Award, and the Duff Cooper Prize in 1975), where Heaney identifies himself as caught between "civilized outrage" and the implacable demands (inherited since birth) of the tribe.

Again and again, in his writing, we observe him poised on a pivot, a one-man dialectic in whom opposites are — uncomfortably — unified. Ulster v. Eire; English learning v. Irish culture; education v. roots; the language of debate v. silence and acceptance; liberalism v. Catholicism; comfort v. guilt; love v. loneliness and restlessness; belonging v. exile . . . It is all there. He knows it well.

He wrote a poem the other day that pleased him. "It's called 'Terminus'. Where I grew up was on the edge of two parishes. I lived in one and went to school in the other. There were two different catechisms to learn. I also lived in one place and played in a different football team. I always had a sense, from an early age, of division. So Terminus was the God of Boundaries; and I thought I would write about him."

That poem contains these lines: "Is it any wonder when I thought I would have second thoughts? Inceptus was his pen name as a student."

In 1972 the Heaneys got out of Ulster, moving south to Wicklow. He saw the move as an escape into silence and safety; others saw it as a political act in itself. *The Protestant Telegraph* gave good riddance to the "well-known Papist propagandist". The borrowed cottage was "a haven" for five years. Heaney, the "inner emigre" found space to reflect on what he calls the "whole bloody politics of the thing". It still seems to irk him: "In one way, I'm not interested in it anymore, in another way the whole northern thing is like a permanent burden. This is the nub of these poems in *Station Island*."

Everybody in the north is born with a sense of solidarity with one or other group. It is packed into them. So the emergent self grows up carrying responsibility for the group — holding the line, keeping up the side. But as you come to different awareness you know there are complicated concessions to be made, truths to be told beyond the official shibboleths. Yet the minute you do set down your burials, as it were, in a situation like that of Northern Ireland, you become consciously aware that you aren't just yourself, you are part of the group. I suppose a lot of self-censorship goes on. So the idea of a freed self becomes very attractive."

In *Field Work* (1970) Heaney wrote a beautiful poem, "The Strand at Lough Beg" in memory of a second cousin, Colum McCartney, who was a victim of sectarian hatred. But a poem in this new volume rejects the easy statement of the last one, as the poet encounters the young man's ghost, and bows before his accusations: "You confused evasion and artistic tact" and "you whitewashed ugliness".



Warm hospitality: Marie Heaney with her husband in 1967

1939: Born, April 13. Education: St Columba's College, Derry; Queen's University, Belfast. 1962-63: Teacher, St Thomas's Secondary School, Belfast. 1963-66: Lecturer, St Joseph's College of Education, Belfast. 1966-72: Lecturer, Queen's University, Belfast. 1967: Somerset Maugham Award. 1968: Cholmondeley Award. 1972-75: Freelance writer. 1975: W. H. Smith Award; Duff

Cooper Prize. 1975-81: Lecturer, Carysfort College. Publications: *Eleven Poems*, 1965; *Death of a Naturalist*, 1966; *Door into the Dark*, 1969; *Wintering Out*, 1972; *North*, 1975; *Field Work*, 1978; *Preoccupations: Selected Prose, 1966-1978*, 1980; *Selected Poems, 1965-1975*, 1980; *Sweeney Astray*, 1984; *Station Island*, 1984. All published by Faber and Faber.

Heaney explains that he has long been aware of the tension between a desire to write pleasing cadences, and a responsibility to tell the truth. So after "Field Work" he made a kind of pact with himself, that he would wait a while before publishing again: "Perhaps there was some kind of awareness that something had to be gone through."

At this point, Sweeney must be introduced into the story. For Sweeney is Heaney's new voice-temperament, at least. When he moved south his began a translation of the Irish work, *Buille Suibhne* (the frenzy of Sweeney) as a way of passing the time in the unfamiliar countryside, and (you suspect) as a penance too. It is a strange verse tale of how the arrogant seventh century king, Sweeney, was cursed by St Ronan, and turned into a bird, who must endure a series of purgatorial adventures in his tree-exile.

Heaney has reworked his

Sweeney Redivivus
1. stirred wet sand and gathered myself to climb the steep-flanked mound, my head like a ball of wet twine
desire with soakage, but beginning to unwind
Another smell was blowing off the river, bitter as night airs in a scutch mill. The old trees were nowhere, the hedges thin as penwork, and the whole enclosure lost under hard paths and sharp-ridged houses.
And there I was, incredible to myself, among people far too eager to believe me and my story, even if it happened to be true.
© Seamus Heaney

translation "in a much more chilled style", and Faber & Faber have published *Sweeney Astray* at the same time as *Station Island*. Both works gain by being read in conjunction. In the introduction to his haunting, elegiac translation Heaney explains: "Insofar as Sweeney is also the figure of the artist, displaced, guilty, assuaging himself by his utterance, it is possible to read the work as an aspect of the quarrel between free, creative imagination, and the constraints of religious, political and domestic obligations."

It is significant that the third section of *Station Island* is a collection of lyrics called collectively, "Sweeney Redivivus", in which the Sweeney-Heaney voice is as one. "I had a notion that I would enter him or he would enter me."

Despite success, and sales, and sympathy for those who ask about the meanings in his work, there is in Seamus Heaney what he calls a "solemn refusal" who wants to turn his back on things-poetry which pleases, the comforts of the middle years, being pigeonholed, saying what people want you to say. He uses phrases like "the fraudulence of excellence", and there is a note of near-defiance in his book.

Invited out to dine in Boston, where for four months a year he is a visiting lecturer in English at Harvard, he was appalled to be asked by an earnest lady "What's it like to be lionized?" The old lion grows little aloud, but often inwardly. A big, kind man with an amiable face and twinkling eyes, he dissembles well. In truth, he dislikes publicity, hype, and summing up. Quite right: it is the uncertain excitement of the poetry which counts.

There is a sense that perhaps Heaney is anxious about the new poetry, though at the same time his nonchalance is not a sham. Certainly, *Station Island* is his most important achievement to date. Interestingly, the two symbols of the book have a religious significance. They are the pilgrim (*Station Island* sequence) and the fugitive (*Sweeney* sequence) — yet who is to say that they are not the same? Might it not be that he who is travelling towards knowledge may also be fleeing from truth?

His Catholic upbringing, he says, is entirely relevant here: "A whole part of one's life, week after month, spent going down on one's knees and accusing oneself in the confessional." Much of that buried guilt is present in the book: *Station Island* is a general confession in a new context. It is saying, accept your own emptiness.

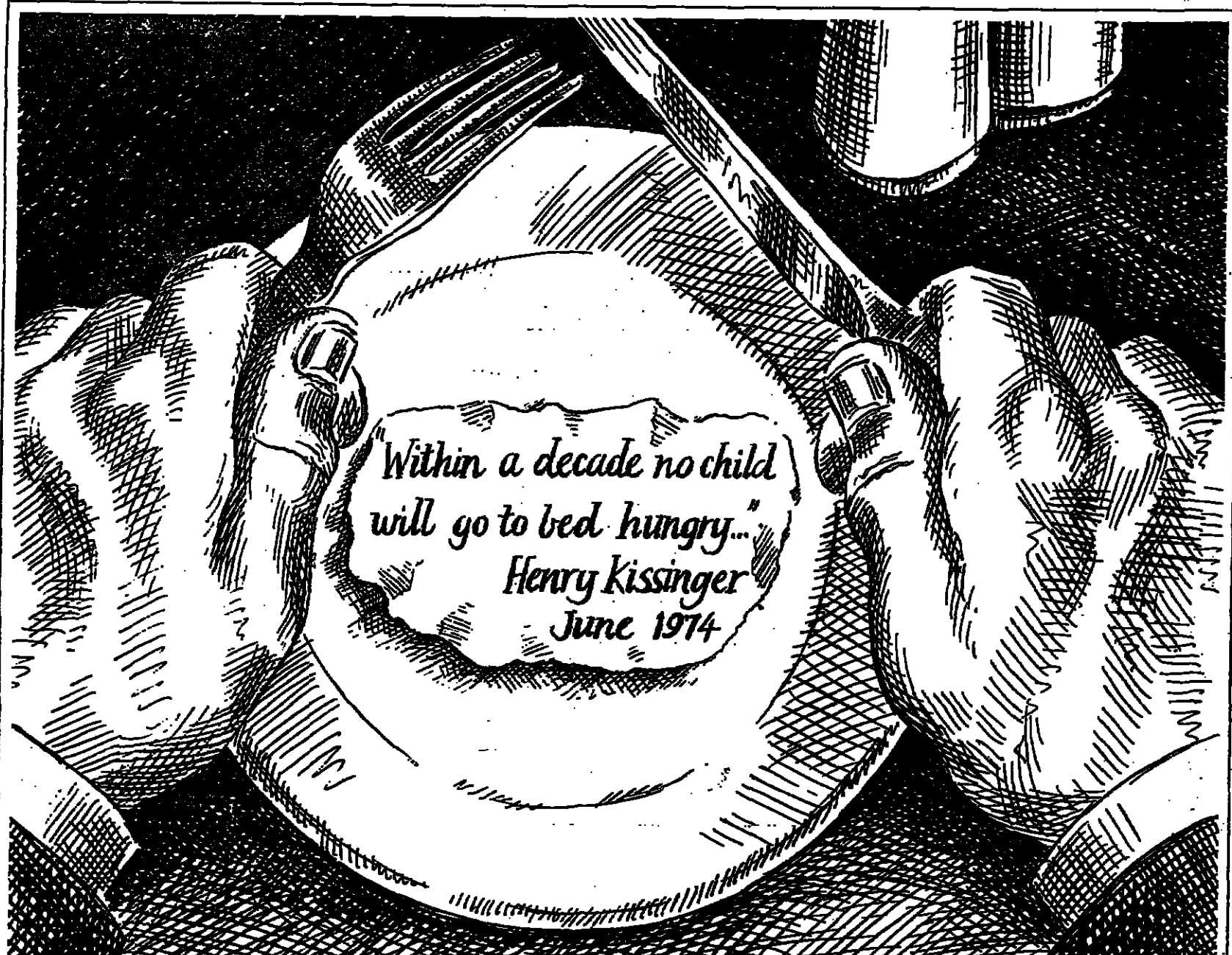
In two poems he invokes the story of the rich young man who was challenged by Christ to give up his possessions and follow him — into exile from class, from tribe, from root. The Irish writer and broadcaster W. R. Rodgers once noted, "There is . . . for Irishmen, the need to distance themselves in order to turn the telescope on their native country."

It is too glib to say that Seamus Heaney has exiled himself to the south, although he certainly misses Belfast far more than Marie does. No — his real exile has nothing to do with place, but much to do with spirit. It is fitting that he has alighted on the symbol of the bird — "emblematic of the soul", as Yeats puts it.

But Heaney's alter ego, this odd bird-creature, has nothing in common with Yeats's famous, enamelled, creature, who sat upon a golden bough, with gifts of rhetoric and prophecy. Its origins are with other dead masters. Heaney loves Bede's famous image from the Anglo-Saxon world, of a sparrow who flies through the stormy night and chances upon the open eaves of a great warren-hall. For a few seconds it knows light and warmth, before passing through the opening on the other side, out again into the merciless landscape. It is that bird who now sits in Heaney's covert.

It has much in common with Hardy's "Darkling Thrush": a shabby, ruffled and doleful creature, isolated like the mad bird-king — yet daring to sing in the teeth of the gale a song that is all the finer for its courage.

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THE ARTS

Caroline Moorehead meets Angela Lambert (right), whose story of a forgotten and fascinating group is published today

Souls in ferment

"The greatest single stroke of luck in my entire life." That is what Angela Lambert calls falling on a remarkably little written-about group of late Victorian, the Souls. They were so called, Lord Curzon once suggested, because you needed a soul above the ordinary to belong to them. They, and their children, the Coterie, known to their parents as the "Corrupt Coterie", dominated one side of London and country house society between the mid-1890s and 1914, with wit, lack of pomposity and above all intelligence, a characteristic that, says Angela Lambert, whose *Unquiet Souls* is published today (Macmillan, £14.95), had never before been valued among the English upper classes.

There is a purposefulness about Angela Lambert that makes you feel that luck is not, really, the right word. True, she caught sight of the Gang's existence - the "Gang" is how they referred to themselves - by chance, reading other biographies of the period. But then she heard herself telling people at dinner parties that what she really intended to do with her life was write a book - and, come to that, why not a book about the Souls? A synopsis, of 10,000 words, was written in a day and a half, in a "blaze of clarity, intensity and extra energy" in the spring of 1982.

And then she was off, tracking down descendants, boring a contemporary history. Research, she says, is what she loves most and what she is good at, the "unravelling of tangles". It was not an unfamiliar field: a degree in PPE had given her "the bedrock of knowledge, even if its furniture was shrouded in dust sheets". In eighteen months, the book was done.

The speed, given the cast of some 50 to 60 characters who made up the Souls (Aquith, Balfour, Blunt, Curzon, the Grenfells and the further 40 or so of the Coterie (Duff Cooper, the three Manners sisters, more Grenfells) is startling. What makes it more so is that during that time Angela Lambert was hard at work at her "real" career as a current affairs reporter for Thames Television.

A lifetime of deadlines had given her a framework for application; it had also instilled in her a ferocious self-discipline not to be led away down marginal avenues. The grandson of Etienne Grenfell, a leading Soul, threw open a cupboard in his house saying "How wonderful it would be if you could arrange this for us". There were engagement books, diaries, letters, all the paraphernalia of Edwardian high society. With admirable self-restraint, she did not rummage far among them.

Angela Lambert did not come to this life by chance. The daughter of a diplomat, sent to a "good girls' school in leafy Sussex", at 11 she knew precisely what she wanted: a



degree from Oxford or Cambridge and a job as a journalist. She got the first, though not as well as she might, having fallen in love with the man who was to become her husband four weeks before finals. The second proved troublesome. Finding no one long to employ her when she left university, she took a job cleaning for Lord and Lady Listowel. Occasionally they asked her to stay to lunch.

One day Lord Listowel suggested she could do more than clean and sent her to see a friend at Cassels, where she began work on French and German dictionaries (her mother is German). From Cassels she went to a magazine, *Modern Woman* ("so modern that they sacked me when I told them I was pregnant"), and then became principal private secretary to Lord Longford.

At 26, her marriage broke up. She had two small children and says that she "went mad for nine months". Eighteen years later, she considers the whole episode extremely fortunate. "If I hadn't divorced then it would have been much harder later to have such a mainstream career". Mainstream it has been: 12 years in television, with articles and radio on the side, all will-power, she says, and the paramount need to earn money to keep three children. But the work has been better than that constantly occupying her mind, boredom and depression, the "fears and self-doubts and loathing of women in their forties who, their children gone, have to face up to their own mortality".

Twelve years ago Angela Lambert bought a small house in the Dorset for her children. She hopes it makes up for not being the perfect mother "sitting around chewing the cud in charming idleness". She plans not less work but more, a new book on the Nabes, the turn-of-the-century Paris painters. She has obviously acquired a taste for "group" biography. "After that, I'll look for a group between 1945 and 1959-1959, the years my grandfather died and I was 19. The age when you start living life: I would like that - discovering my roots."

If she has a regret about *Unquiet Souls* it is that she forced upon herself too harsh a deadline. Another three months would have permitted a more leisurely contemplation of what it all meant and what the elegant, articulate and often tricky Souls actually amounted to. It would, for instance, have allowed further reflection on their double standards, their appalling disregard for servants. "After all, why I was attracted to this kind of book in the first place was that it sets up people's expectations - and then shows they're not all right."

Philip Howard reviews *Unquiet Souls* in next week's Books Page.

Bruson and Verrett rise above everything

Macbeth
Paris Opéra

Massimo Bogliandino has started his second season at the Opéra, as he began his first, with an Italian work adapted to the taste of Paris audiences in the middle of the last century. The choice has fallen on Verdi's *Macbeth*, surprisingly the first time it has been heard at the Opéra, given with all the Act III ballets and - a slight cheat here - Macbeth's death scene which Verdi excised when he reworked his Florence opera for France. Musically the evening is a tremendous success under the baton of Georges Prêtre, very much the local hero now in the Bogliandino regime after spending years in the Parisian wilderness.

Cappuccilli and Bruson are Europe's rival Macbeths at the moment and a high standard they set. At Salzburg a couple of months ago Cappuccilli triumphed over an indifferent production to prove what an outstanding Thane of Cawdor he still is; Bruson in Paris, a house debut, shines through a staging that is not much better. Bruson, who in some roles can be a rather introverted figure, now gives the more dynamic performance. His Macbeth begins as a man only half aware of what he is doing, always having to pull himself together when realization does at last steal over him. Full stature comes when the crimes pile up and, at the end of Act III, he and Lady Macbeth vow themselves to a fresh bout of carnage, the single moment in the opera when their hearts and voices are as one. Act IV is resplendent as Macbeth acquires full self-knowledge in "Pietà, rispetto, amore" before tumbling down the stage to death and oblivion, although not as unceremoniously as Cappuccilli was made to do at Salzburg.

Bruson's baritone now sounds in peak condition, infinitely malleable and showing no sign of effort even at the end of a long evening, three full hours of music in Paris. The eyes may roll melodramatically in the old-fashioned Cabotti style, but who quibbles about that when the tone is so firm and lustrous? His interpretation in the Philips *Macbeth* recording out in a few days (412 133-1) is eagerly awaited.

Bruson prefers to build up his Macbeth brick by brick. Shirley Verrett in contrast prefers to begin with a bang. "Vieni, l'affretta" was delivered with a punch designed to rock the audience back on its heels, and that it did together with the following cabaret. Verrett, a dominant Lady Macbeth right from the days of the best production of Verdi's opera I have encountered, Strehler's at La Scala in 1976, cannot keep the force up throughout the evening. The Sleepwalk-



The Macbeths (Renato Bruson and Shirley Verrett) in front of Yannis Kokkos's loathsome line

ing scene, unhelpfully staged in Paris, lacked the shiver that voice and orchestra together should send through the house. Until that point it was an imperious performance which spurred Bruson to his best - and what have Lady Macbeths to do but urge on their husbands?

The supporting cast is of high calibre. John Tomlinson's Banco is a sympathetic figure, younger than usual - no greybeard warrior here. The Japanese tenor Taro Ichihara has been upgraded from his Malcolm at Salzburg to Macduff. The voice is large, even a bit on the hoarse side, and Mr Ichihara looked justifiably pleased with himself after he had delivered his Act IV aria. The Paris chorus is now one of Europe's best and *Macbeth* gives them ample opportunity to show their paces.

Yannis Kokkos's single set is hideous in every sense of the word. A vast flight of steps runs up the stage as if for some

old-fashioned *Turandot*. On the left is a row of crumbling, terracotta-coloured pillars, which might have been snatched from some ancient Mediterranean site, surrounded by the figures of men and horses, both flayed and maimed, their entrails spilling into the air. After the first visual effect of the horrors of war has worn off, and it does not take too long, this loathsome line merely becomes an encumbrance. The costumes, especially for the witches who employ a whole aviary of night birds, are more successful.

I have never been a great admirer of the opera productions of Antoine Vitez, from the TNP, and *Macbeth* does not alter that view. His staging, bathed for the most part in a steady light, lacks all atmosphere. In *Macbeth*, where the elements and the time of day play such a key role, this approach is perverse. There are moments of curiosity such as the entrance of Duncan and his retinue,

played by dwarves who solemnly circle the Macbeths, and other moments which add nothing to the music, as when a huge puppet figure of the king crashes on to the stage to interrupt the Act I finale. To add to the debit side, the construction of the set makes the Act III ballets all but impossible, a pity when a dancer as fine as Jean Guizerix is in the line-up. Vitez's main successes are the deployment of the chorus and the clearing of stage space so that the principals can be both seen and heard. And it is for them that this *Macbeth* should be caught and also for Georges Prêtre's highly coloured, highly committed view of the score. It is time Covent Garden re-engaged him.

John Higgins

Macbeth runs until October 29 with Ghena Dimitrova and Franz Grunheber sharing performances with Verrett and Bruson.

Theatre
Left free to judge

Six Men of Dorset
Shaw

If it seems inevitable, this turns out to be the final production of the 7-84 England Company. It at least enables the group to go down in style with their original colours gallantly nailed to the mast.

First produced 50 years ago to commemorate the TUC centenary, *Six Men of Dorset* represents the rare collaboration of an able dramatist and a dedicated union official. Between them, Miles Malleson and Harry Brooks retell the story of the six Dorset farm labourers who were transported for swearing in members of a trade union, and the public outcry that led to their pardon. History has canonized them as the Tolpuddle Martyrs, and the play duly follows suit, characterizing the men and their leader, George Loveless, as patterns of working-class virtue exercising superhuman restraint in the face of the arrogant inhumanity of their landed and judicial adversaries.

In John McGrath's adaptation, you also see the awakening sense of social justice through the fog of Christian indoctrination. "Doesn't seem right," observes one reluctant unionist, "praying for something and then trying for it. Doesn't give the Lord a chance to show what he can do."

After statements like that, it is quite a thrill to hear gems from the Tolpuddle hymnal being heretically appropriated for the agitational cause. The male voice singing (arrangements by John Tams) is terrific. Also, the quality of characterization is such that there is no discernible break between the imagined episodes and the trial transcript.

The strength of the production, and of performances like Paul Moriarty's stoically unflinching Macduff and Wilfrid "Hoyland" Silk, Melbourne, is that it leaves you free to draw your own conclusions as to whether this heroic chunk of history is now being re-narrated, or whether the present state of the unions would make the Dorset pioneers turn in their graves.

Irving Wardle

Concerts

RPO/Litton
Festival Hall/Radio 3

Geoffrey Burgon had the misfortune to lose his intended soprano soloist some hours before the first performance of his fantasy *The World Again* at the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra's concert on Tuesday. Happily Jane Manning was able to replace the indisposed Elise Ross, to sing the short setting of lines by T. L. Beddoes, "Deeply have I slept", from which comes the work's title, a setting which forms the musical as well as poetic resolution of the fantasia as a whole.

Beautifully crafted in instrumental tones, it comprises an extended rondo, about 25 minutes long, of which the episodes evoke varying dreams interrupting the sleeper's repose. The rondo theme is delicately silver-pointed by the woodwind in parallel with the strings, affording a central focus in the key of C major or minor, with open harmonies from

which tensions quickly develop and disappear again as is characteristic of dreams.

The composer's music often relates a mystical and poetic imagination to theatrical effect, and his response to this RPO commission is a work that can be enjoyed for its purely musical appeal and attractive character. It was given an assured performance under the conducting of Andrew Litton, who also obtained a tender and modestly expressive account of Fauré's Requiem later in the programme.

Miss Manning is so often kept busy solving the problems of new music for us that it was a pleasure to hear the pure and unaffected lyricism she brought to the angelic "Pie Jesu" solo. David Wilson-Johnson was a persuasive baritone soloist and John Birch an organizer of musical understanding as well as skill. The Brighton Festival Chorus was unduly prosaic in

its verbal phrasing but blended well in sound.

Between these serious-minded works there was diverting contrast in the high spirits and sometimes urchin mood of Poulenc's Concerto for Two Pianos, with the Fekine sisters, identical twins, as fleet-fingered soloists. They conjured up the Balinese gamelan effect in the first movement, set even the Mozartian tribute of the slow movement on a jaunty course, and were accompanied throughout by a vivacious orchestral partnership.

Noël Goodwin

The New Opera Company is to present the British premiere production of Ernst Krenek's jazz opera *Johnny Strikes Up* in collaboration with Opera North on their first visit to London, at Sadler's Wells on November 14, 16 and 17. David Lloyd-Jones conducts, and the producer is Anthony Besch.

Amsterdam Baroque
Orchestra/Koopman
St James's, Piccadilly

... compared, with painting, music occupies only a relatively modest place in the cultural legacy of the Dutch...

Frits Noske's words in his introduction to this series of concerts, *Music from the Age of Rembrandt*, do not invalidate the notion of matching music to the paintings on view at present at the Royal Academy, even though the music revealed is not of such unquestionably high quality as in the concert series that accompanied and illuminated the *Glory of Venice* exhibition.

The chance has been taken instead to uncover some real rarities, and this programme by the Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra was crammed with them. Not a great work in sight, one is tempted to add wistfully, and yet the presence here for contrast of even one piece by Bach or Handel might well have devalued the exceptional inter-

est of the rest. I would have thought room might have been found for Holland's newest rediscovered composer, the Count van Wassenaer who wrote "Pergolesi's" Concertino, but there were plenty of unknown figures to hand.

And they demonstrated one facet of Dutch culture in its "golden age"; that whereas its painting is absolutely characteristic, its music is wholly eclectic. There was the Italian cantata-like fanfarings of sonatas by Benedetto a Sancto Josepho (though one movement used a thematic fragment as cadence in an almost Haydnian manner). There was the amiable J. C. Bach-like prattling of a harpsichord concerto by Johann Nicolas Lentz. There were the Vivaldi-inspired virtuosity of De Fesch's violin concertos, and the quasi-French baroque intricacies of the cantata *Apolo, die pour les femmes* (deftly, warmly sung by Max van Egmond), a riposte to Campra by the exotically named Quirinus de van Blankenburg (whom the notes informed us was

heavily involved in controversy about the range of the carillon, poor man).

The Amsterdam Baroque Orchestra is directed by the harpsichordist Ton Koopman with largely Dutch wind players and mainly English string players, and, as the wind were entirely absent on this occasion, it was a rather native-heavy group that presented itself for the first time in London.

There were numerous small hiccup in the playing which began in an almost darkened church, but the unity of spirit in the group was never in doubt, and as the evening warmed up, so did the players. Monica Huggert's fiery yet relaxed way with the multiple stoppings of the De Fesch Concerto in F was especially invigorating. Max van Egmond was, as usual, effortlessly aristocratic, but even he seemed a little puzzled by the twists and turns of Carel Hacquart's music, which never quite knew which way it was pointing.

Nicholas Kenyon

Television

Religious curiosity

"Ancient Rome was once like this," explained Don Cupitt in *The Sea of Faith* (BBC 2) as he wandered through the Festival of Mind and Body - and, with posters proclaiming The Third Eye or The Rebirth Society, there may well be a certain resemblance. Don Cupitt's purpose was to discover how "all this confusion" started: these various phenomena, however, by as heterogeneous and confused as they seem, springing as they do from the same need for belief and the same appetite for certainties.

Mr Cupitt, who is a very articulate presenter, placed such things in an historical perspective by suggesting that the

translation of Indian religious texts in the late eighteenth century marked the first invasion of an alien set of beliefs which nevertheless had a profound impact upon philosophers such as Schopenhauer. But Mr Cupitt ranges very widely, and he leapt at once from the Pessimist to the Theosophist in the forbidding shape of Mrs Annie Besant. What became clear in his recital, however, was the fact that Indian religions offered a

way of channelling disaffection with, or distrust for, the established faith and conventional society. "I wanted the truth," Mrs Besant once explained: "I was longing to have it intensely" - thus echoing the cry of all those who seek in the most unlikely cultures for the "secret" of life and faith. This is a most interesting series, although its very objectivity - Christianity being presented as only one of a number of available faiths - will

bring little comfort to the uncertain. Mr Cupitt talks rather vaguely of "Religion", almost as if he were propounding the old saw that "all religions are one" - a doctrine of "universal mysticism" which is vacuous where it is not positively destructive. And one gets the impression from programmes such as this that "Religion" has become largely a subject of historical curiosity: it can be presented in a television series because it has in a sense come to an end, a completely observable and comprehensible phenomenon with much the same status as the French Revolution or the Gobi Desert.

Peter Ackroyd

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BOOKS 1

Our recent life and Hard Times

Lord McGregor of Durris, Chairman of the Royal Commission on the Press, reviews the latest history of The Times

Like Stanley Morison, the great typographer and main architect of the first four volumes of *The History of The Times*, published between 1935 and 1952, Mr Iverach McDonald, author of the fifth, is not a detached historian. He served *The Times* for 40 years, mostly in senior posts, becoming a member of the Board at the end of his career and so he writes with a feeling for the inwardness of personalities and events. McDonald's chief aim is, first, to write a history of *The Times* between the eve of the second world war and its purchase by Lord Thomson in 1966 without being "carried away into a history of the times". Second, "to tell the paper's story in a full and rounded way" that takes into account far more than changing political positions and opinions. He succeeds admirably.

The volume opens with "the very deep rift in Printing House Square" between 1937 and early 1939 caused by the fervent advocacy of appeasement by the editor, Geoffrey Dawson and his deputy, Robert Barrington-Ward, which greatly damaged the reputation of *The Times* then and later. They had many opponents in the office, including the co-chief proprietor, Colonel Astor, who nevertheless maintained the independence of the editor from any interference.

Mr McDonald himself is described by Thomas Barman in an appendix as being so upset by the paper's policy that he could be heard muttering to himself words of Old Testament vengeance as he left the office. In 1939 the editor and his deputy were quickly converted from appeasement to waging war.

Dawson retired in 1941 and Barrington-Ward, in outlook a Tory radical, succeeded him. He believed that *The Times* should use its voice to argue both for a peace settlement more stable than that of 1919-20 and

THE HISTORY OF THE TIMES
Volume V. *Struggles in War and Peace, 1939-1966*
By Iverach McDonald
Times Books, £20

for fundamental social reconstruction at home. His vision for the paper, recorded in his diary, was "to create a central bloc of opinion agreed on a national minimum and prepared to see it through peaceful revolution".

The last editor under the Astor ownership was Sir William Haley. Appointed in 1952 from the BBC, where he had been director-general for eight years, he came with a high reputation as a journalist, editor, and administrator. More than half the book is devoted to his editorship, and many notable events are recalled. But behind the pages of news and comment, already giving greatly extended cover of economic and industrial affairs, the financial foundations of the newspaper were crumbling.

From an economic point of view, newspapers are an industry like any other, but seen as essential contributors to the maintenance of political democracy, they are an industry like no other. They have to be profitable to be stable, and they have to feed the public interest. The history of the national quality papers during the last thirty years is a running commentary upon the conflicts bred by this quality. Mr McDonald holds that the late 1930s were "the golden age" of newspapers in Britain when they were still the chief source of news and comment, and "the *Times* had its high and distinctive place". This was possible so long as the profits were steady and unexceptional. However, for the first time in more than a century and a half, there was a loss in 1940,



though the paper remained in profit for the next 16 years. Like most of its contemporaries, *The Times* did well commercially during the war and its aftermath. Most of the industry found that the rationing of newsprint, fewer copies, smaller papers, the blunting of competition, and a general reduction in expenditure resulted in easier and more assured profits that lasted until the mid-1950s.

Then *The Times* took the initiative in attacking what its editor and manager regarded as the two most important restrictions on the freedom of newspapers—the rationing of paper and the collective agreement of all members of the Newspaper Proprietors' Association, the trade association of the national newspapers, to stop publishing if any one of them was prevented by direct or unconstitutional trade union action. In his most unconvincing chapter, Mr McDonald seems to wish to justify these managerial decisions. Whatever the possible advantages of destroying



The day the news ousted the Agency Column from the front

the paper rationing scheme at that time, the subsequent history of industrial relations in the national industry demonstrates the folly of undermining the agreement among employers to take joint action when faced with strikes. What would the Thomson Organization have given for such an agreement?

In 1957, *The Times* made a pre-tax loss of £97,000. This undermined the warnings about the company's vulnerability which the Astor family had been receiving from their own financial advisers. As a result, Cooper Brothers undertook "a review of the organization, administration and financial position of *The Times* Publishing Company". The accountants concluded that "we do not overstate the position by saying that unless there is a radical improvement, the future of *The Times* is in jeopardy", and they urged several measures to increase circulation. Among these was Francis Mathew's advertising campaign: "Top People Take *The Times*. Do You?" In the event, modernization was a leisurely process and took five years to get fully under way. Even then it did not diminish the problem of rising costs and sluggish revenue.

By 1966, the Astors were searching for a lifeline. After the establishment of commercial television in 1954, Gavin and Hugh Astor had suggested that *The Times* should follow other newspapers by going into or investing in the new development. The proposal had been rejected by Colonel Astor, the Board and Haley. Ten years later, such an expedient would have been a ploy to cure an earthquake, and a new partner or a new proprietor had to be found.

Playing it all for laughs

Basil Boothroyd

GREAT DISASTERS OF THE STAGE
By William Donaldson
Arthur Barker, £4.95

I guess a couple of hundred stories in this shortish compilation: something old, something new, mostly borrowed and often blue (fearless use of very mild words). I say mostly borrowed because some of the disasters anguished the compiler personally.

His introduction, admitting to the borrowings, gaily disclaims responsibility for their truth. This strikes me as no way to run an anthology, even for laughs, particularly since a lot of the incidents are pinned to eminent names. "Orson Welles was once appearing..." "When Gladys Cooper was playing Peter Pan..." "Sally, the range is wide." "Appearing in a senior citizen's away-day talent contest at Bognor, 76-year-old Mr Bert Hodges..."

Whether telling of an improbable on-stage comment by Gielgud after angrily kicking a Shakespearean under-study, or recounting how a Miss Thundersbird "remained in the cannon while her knickers were blown across the Thames", all the material has been re-vamped, or re-written, in the best style and the prize hang on with the mercilessness of an after-dinner speaker's gag book. Many would serve such a performer's purpose: no doubt have so served; though not perhaps for sceptical theatrical diners—and

Suspension of disbelief is all right, but you need something to suspend it on. Edmund Kean may have been too drunk to play Hamlet that time, but did the performance, as he asserted, proceed with the Prince omitted, causing Sir Walter Scott,

present on the night, to call it "a great improvement"? Questions arise. Someone must have done Polonius in Gertrude, perhaps. Again, it's hard enough to take that Richard Burton and John Gielgud, alternating as Iago and Othello, came back from a heavy lunch one misty day and both played Iago; but harder to take our narrator's assurance that "the audience noticed nothing unusual". This was at the Old Vic in 1954. The customers were choosy.

Not all is instantly rejectable. Singing cowboy Roy Rogers, dodging anti-air missiles, may well have shot his horse Trigger "up the air". Bernhardt, on her line, "Take this tower", may have landed her lower stage-hand's half-eaten carrot. But whether Coward, privately auditioning Kenneth More, played seductive music to subdued lighting and wore "a polka-dot dress", causing More to reject his advances because "you reminded me of my mother", I leave to your judgement and Mr Donaldson's literary conscience.

Artist Bernard Cookson loyally strives to add conviction by illustrating straight quotes from the text. Supplementary comments might have been easier. To depict actors and animals being hurled into the stalls from a runaway revolve could have had even Tenniel biting his pen.

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THE FIELD

There is life after the Raj

FICTION

Gay Firth

IN CUSTODY
By Anita Desai
Heinemann, £7.95

PEEPING TOM
By Howard Jacobson
Corgi & Windus, £3.95

BEYOND THE DRAGON'S MOUTH
By Shiva Naipaul
Hamish Hamilton, £12.50

CLASS DISTINCTIONS
By Tim Heald
Hutchinson, £8.95

Images of India have been stereotyped, if not distorted, by Raj literature from Kipling through E. M. Forster to Paul Scott and the recent celluloid revivals. The forthcoming film of *A Passage to India* will be different in degree, but not in kind, from these dreadful *Far Pavilions* (never, never far enough, except by determined assault upon the "off" switch). Anita Desai changes the lens and sharpens our focus.

In Custody is a wonderfully sensuous Song of Experience: life grating against art; friendships and intellectual riches tarnishing under the wretched indignities of poverty. Deven Sharma is a temporary lecturer in Hindi at a clapped-out college in Northern India; shackled by his fearful lack of confidence, a marriage as arid and dusty as the landscape, precarious finances, and the purity and immensity of the passion for poetry. Hurrying miserably between conflicting intimations in small-town, small-time academia and the rapacious alleys of Delhi, he cuts a craven figure.

The calamities which befall his mission to capture for posterity, in a clapped-out tape recorder, something of the genius of the aged, clapped-out Nur, India's greatest Urdu poet, conjure images recognizable by any of us who may have glanced, smiling in affectionate remembrance, at an unobtrusive little statue in Leicester Square. Charlie Chaplin needed neither language nor national identity to authenticate his art. Using both, in pragmatic English prose, Anita Desai makes us perceive similar effort and sincerity; innocence no more alien for its contemporary Indian setting; foolishness no less touching for being funny.

Harold Jacobson comes from behind the "tropic swamps of the imagination" to drag admirers into them again, kicking and screaming and laughing our heads off. His second novel, like its narrator, is "best slightly off the knees" under its weight of obsessions, hilarious guilt, gallows humour, and a seriously impressive literary talent.

Will you welcome, please, "another ordinary Jewish boy trying to make sense of things". This one "looks as if he is called Barney Fugleman". He is born in North London 100 years to the day, maybe even to the minute, after Hardy ("As in Laurel and Hardy"). "No. Not as in Kiss Me As in Thomas." "I of 'Tess of the D'Urbervilles' and other 'rural plots hatched over the centuries, thrashing vines; the English there is an indivisible connexion between literature and lakes, between meaning and mountains, between poets and peasants'. More: Barney was born 200 years to the day (maybe even the minute) after the Marquis de Sade; he of "The 120 Days of Sodom"; a book which gives Barney's second wife, Camilla, "more amusement than any other book I'd seen her read".

Whether in spite of this or

because of it, readers will be crazy about Camilla, Barney certainly is. His first wife, Sharon, "a wild and one might even say careless dancer" who runs a bookshop, is really rather a sweetie, but "Camilla, I ought to make it clear, hated Hardy even more thoroughly than I did".

Camilla for President, say I. T. Hardy's rural, sexual, and romantic obsessions peep from every page. "The miserable old..."—the previous incumbent of Barney's boss body—a fact first spotted by Harry Wilber, the friendly neighbour-hood hypnotherapist in Mr Jacobson's Wild West Finchley and Wesssex County Show. *Peeping Tom* is crammed with wholly preposterous, wholly believable characters and situations; all dementedly serious, desperately funny.

Shiva Naipaul and Tim Heald both know that "a British passport cannot shield you from everything". Both perceived the "sub-world of racial prejudice" when "the word racist did not yet exist"; and both understand "class".

Mr Naipaul's ticket out of Trinidad through the "Dragon's Mouth", the strait between Port of Spain harbour and the open sea, was an Island Scholarship; first to Oxford, thence to a nomadism which "has become second nature to me". His book is a collection of eight short stories and 18 international journalistic "pieces". It opens on an elegant, melancholy, autobiographical essay first published earlier this year in the New Yorker; a curious-reminder to this period, sharply ironic retrospective of a literary life so far.

How different, how very different from Tim Heald's "semi-autobiographical" story set in an English prep school "not an Eton prep" in 1956. Where Shiva Naipaul's performances come close to the centre of a national and international literary stage, Mr Heald is a reliable cheerful tap-dancer in the middle row of the chorus. "You could play in the same team but you hobbled with different nobis." Just so: Tim Heald is jolly clever. Fast on his feet. Useful chap.

Up the Khyber and on

Gontran Gouliden

TO THE FRONTIER
By Geoffrey Moorhouse
Hodder & Stoughton, £9.95

Geoffrey Moorhouse is truly hooked on the Great Sub-Continent. He has returned again to produce a book that traces the boundary between Pakistan's Frontier Provinces and Iran and Afghanistan. He has used the main South-North routes starting from Karachi and climbing the Bolan Pass to Quetta, then doubling back and forth North-East to Lahore, thence to Rawalpindi, Islamabad and Peshawar, with a dash up and down the Khyber Pass, and continuing to Chitral and finally Gilgit. A remarkable journey using most forms of transport including foot-slogging. Old "Koi hams" with long memories will appreciate his comparisons between the old and the new.

From time to time Moorhouse stops for breath, or waits for permits or travel bookings. He makes good use of his breaks to see sights and to meet both simple and well-informed and amusing people. Some of them have been badly treated under the present regime, and even confined under torture, others banished to the remotest parts for retaining their honesty.

Moorhouse combines strong feelings about the intolerably harsh Islamic laws, and for the old Imperialism of the Raj, while being, at the same time, proud of the latter's military records and monuments. Many existing regiments such as the Khyber Rifles and the Gilgit Scouts still retain relics of the past, in particular their game-books and their ceremonial. The penultimate stage of the journey was made through mountains, on foot, in company with a western woman diplomat. She was all girl guides and jolly hockey sticks, a feminist

with a strong leaning towards camping in tents. Moorhouse much preferred stately hotels and restaurants, but was happy to eat food.

His descriptive writing is excellent, and in particular his account of a hectic drive in slushing rain on a narrow mud-crumbed rock-faced track with a sheer wall on one side and an unprotected precipice on the other. Mostly he keeps you jogging, often rather short of breath, but always with profound pleasure.

Anthony Price

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MICHAEL JOSEPH



Have we made the new *Field* too fascinating?

BOOKS II

Art for art's sake, but once more with feeling, dear boy

POETRY

Robert Nye

Craig Raine is the man who put the art in Martian. Truth to tell, I was not one of those who applauded the verse in his collection *Martian Sends a Postcard Home* (1979), finding its attempts to see and report on the world as if through the eyes of a visitor from another planet rather too successful in their trickiness; the work of a clever verbal decorator with nothing much to say. A new Donne, some declared. More like an old Swinburne, I thought. So let me remark straight away that a number of the poems in this writer's latest book *Rich* (Faber £5.95, £2.95 paperback) seem to show a welcome change of direction.

Raine still jizzes about with his material, desperate to hold the reader's attention, or perhaps to engage his own, piling up jokes and metaphors in little verbal castles spun of intellectual candyfloss. But there is a fresh note of true feeling in such pieces as "Inca", which reaches towards the remote world of his daughter's childhood, and in "The Widower" which commemorates a dead woman, and in "The Man Who Invented Pain" which tells the story of a soldier, shot for releasing a basket of carrier pigeons, who spends the hours before his execution writing, for his parents' sake, a year's supply of letters home, to be posted at regular intervals after his death:

in which the last began
Dear Mother, Dear Dad
Thanks for yours
Today, a Tuesday
we shot a man
at 1000 hours

Interesting, I think, that the new warmth which has begun to enliven Raine's whimsies is inspired for the most part by parent/child relationships. In this regard the prose piece, "A Silver Plate", which affectionately honours the poet's eccentric father, an ex-boxer turned faith healer, stands at a crucial point in the middle of the book. Raine begins to emerge as a genuine and ingenious one. The Martian is learning that art is not enough.

Appearances to the contrary, the American poet John Ashbery strikes me as having known this little lesson from the start. He is of course master of that New York school which

flirts with nonsense, delighting all fans of the difficult and the obscure, eschewing any kind of clear expression of thought or feeling. There are times when this leaves the reader frustrated, as though the poet's sole object was the deliberate avoidance of meaning. But then meaninglessness is not so hard to achieve, and Ashbery - even at his most coy and opaque - succeeds in writing lines of uncommon memorability. It is as if he says: "What this means is that I make you remember it." And in his new volume *A Wave* (Carcanet Press, £4.95 paperback), such sayings work often enough to be impressive.

The blackboard is erased in the attic
and the wind turns up the light of the stars.
Someone now. Someone will find out.
And if someone on this great planet
The truth is discovered, a patch of it,
dried, glazed by the sun,
it will just hang on, in its own
inert, laundry room
till it's better for it, but things can't
get any worse
Just keep playing, mastering as you
do the very
fun-damental of this one mean.
The step into disorder is, I
think, Ashbery's own, and he
does mean it, every strange
word of it, and his injunction
that we should "just keep
playing" is as serious as
Auden's.

No Martian, this guy, but a neighbourly intelligence at work on common human experience, whose jokes and inventions are informed by an all too familiar despair. I recommend Ashbery's teasing yet often very beautiful and funny poetry to readers who have not yet made its acquaintance. The nearest thing I know to it in English - to try to define its peculiar flavour - is the prose of Ronald Firbank. Like Firbank, too, he is irresistibly readable in large doses. There are not many new books of verse which one wants to read right through, from cover to cover, as soon as they come from the press, but any new Ashbery always has that effect on me.

The best of Ashbery's English disciples is without doubt

Anthony Howell, and his volume *Notions of a Mirror* (Anvil Press, £3.50) deserves the attention of anyone who cares for poetry at all. In fact, I do Howell an injustice by speaking of him as anyone's follower, since ever since his remarkable first book *Inside the Castle* (1969) he has been quite capable of standing and running on his own poetic feet. But his early work was that of a young man of great natural talent unable or unwilling to much refine or even define a capacity for sensual confusion which was shamelessly employed to keep a poem going when inspiration failed. And he has learned from Ashbery's example how to look at genuinely intense feelings through a splendidly literate quizzing-glass of wit.

Much less vainly might you feel
I dragon seek by scale by scale
Than fashion how Medusa fixed the hair.

Howell tends at times to produce poems where an over-decorative usage of adjectives blurs definition, in that the poet pursues the pattern suggested by the decoration rather than the object he set out to describe or define. But his faults are those of a real poet, a fellow with too much feeling, and a working mixture of delight and despair at his own capacity to find forms for its expression.



Billy Wilder fighting a cigar, LA 1982

Pictures in snaps; art in collage and joiners

Michael Young

CAMERAWORKS
By David Hockney
Thames & Hudson, £30

Why does a painting invariably hold one's attention while a single photograph does not? The question is one that has long fascinated David Hockney. His answer is deceptively simple. A painting, because it is made over a period of time has time layered into its surface and can therefore convey the impression of time. So it captures one's attention. The instantaneity of a photograph, dealing as it does with the coinage of the ephemeral moment, robs it of the ability to convey time. Capricious creatures that we are, we quickly pass over it, ever hungry for the next fragment of the real world, the next frozen moment.

Hockney - always a passionate snapper himself - wanted to develop a technique that denied photography's individual moment and subverted its traditional monocular ways of seeing. He constructed what he calls his "joiners" - hundreds of tiny, coloured, Polaroids stuck together, to substantiate his theory.

If the actual technique is not unique the application certainly is. By denying a fixed border he also denied photography's traditional window effect while simultaneously shattering its perspectival conventions.

Often these joiners - later called "photocollages" - are of events as they unfold before Hockney's camera. *Look at the British Embassy in Tokyo* was shot over a period of 40 minutes, as the meal progressed. People are allowed to appear more than once, and the camera is allowed, an omnipresent freedom to roam at will and explore the minutes of the event, if Hockney feels it will contribute to the impression and the experience of that event.

It is as though one were half listening to a discursive conversation. Fragments are heard and clutched at and gradually the overall picture emerges.

When seen on the walls of a gallery the colour saturated photocollages are incredibly seductive. Herein lies the nub of the problem. In a gallery they are possessed with an awe-inspiring monumentality and excitement, as the abutting, overlaid, disjointed tiny prints arrest one's attention, emphasizing and creating the illusion of time and space. All this is lost when the originals, perhaps measuring six feet across, are reduced to a few inches on the printed page.

As a postscript it must be said that Hockney has never really regarded these works as any-

thing other than an experiment leading to a way of seeing which is akin to the principles of cubism. Sadly this book does not elaborate on this. More the pity because recently he drew my attention to two photocollages which post-date *Camera Works*: a photograph of a desk and a recreation of the famous Marilyn Monroe calendar. These two collages, although couched in the terminology of the photocollages, are very different and seem to be as near as Hockney could possibly get to constructing a genuine cubist photograph with all the multiplicity of vision and movement which that implies.



Brooklyn Bridge, New York, November 1982

'Sweeping, chaotic brilliance...'

The Times

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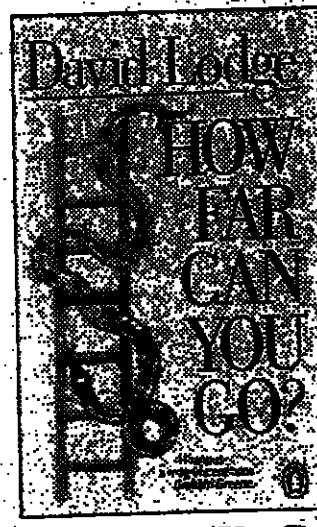
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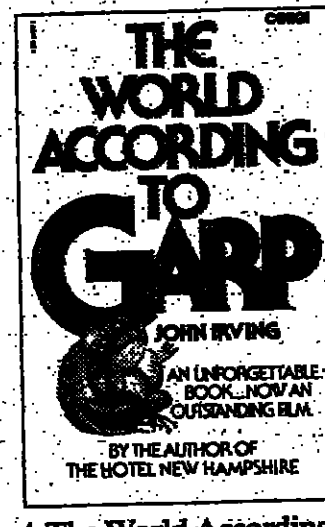
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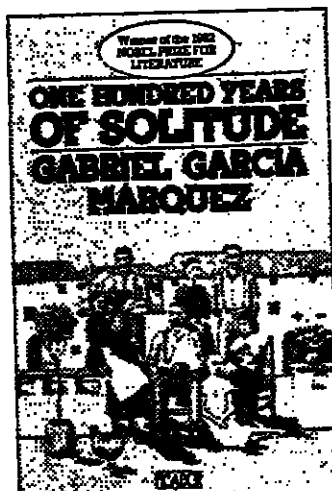
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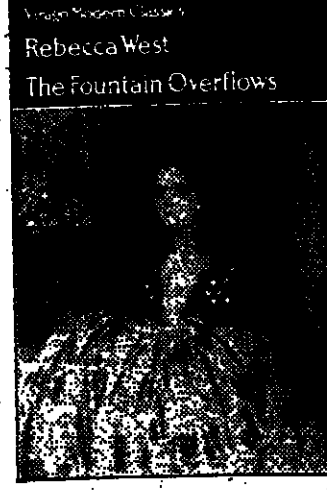
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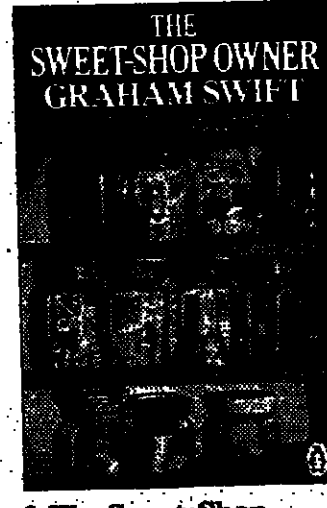
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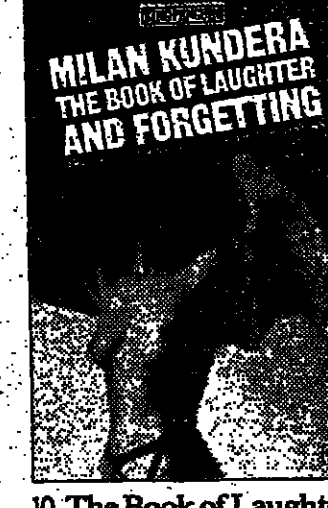
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THE TIMES DIARY

High-tech lowdown

CIA agents, it is claimed, have been spying on British companies suspected of smuggling high-tech secrets to the Soviet bloc. They have photographed incriminating documents and flown them to Washington, where the CIA has a list of 300 guilty companies. My source, I must admit, is not the most authoritative. It is a giveaway magazine called *In Business Life*, which circulates in southern England, claims the story as an exclusive, and says it leaked out after CIA head William Casey carelessly mentioned the list to businessmen at a Californian cocktail party. The magazine also goes on to claim that George Lauder, an official CIA press officer, had admitted the story. Yesterday another CIA press officer, Patty Voie, denied that Lauder had made any such remarks. "It is categorically absurd," she laughed.

Brought to book

Sir Anthony Kershaw has yet to convince sceptics that as Tory chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee investigating the Belgrano sinking he has not prejudged the issue. Certainly he did not put his name to any report that concludes that Mrs Thatcher was "an old woman with lots of money and guns" who "wanted to buy the little island." That is the gist of Raymond Briggs' new picture book allegory of the Falklands war, *The Tin-Pot Foreign General and the Old Iron Woman*, a copy of which publishers Hamish Hamilton thoughtfully sent to Sir Anthony. He wrote back angrily: "I think it is the contemptible product of a sick mind and have thrown it away."

● Employment under-secretary Alan Clark had to cancel his engagements in Brighton yesterday and flee back to London. His wife confided that he had forgotten the key to the bag containing his official despatch box. Tory colleagues assumed that, like so many others, he was just bored.

Bush telegraph

President Reagan seems hell bent on exposing himself to ridicule. After his appalling double act on TV with Walter Mondale, a senior Tory politician confided at Brighton that it is little wonder that the Russians do not take Reagan seriously. During his recent talks with Gromyko in the White House, aides apparently placed idiot boards for him in pot plants and the shrubbery.

Hot and Colditz

If this year's Booker Prize judges want a controversial winner, they need look no further than the current front-runner, J. G. Ballard's *Empire of the Sun*. While critics hail it as the great Second World War novel, intimates at the Japanese camp that Ballard describes are reacting with outrage. The latest batch of angry letters appear in today's *Listener*, two of them from people held captive with him at Lunghua, near Shanghai. "The descriptions of the dirt and disease in Lunghua are almost all fantasies," writes one, while another insists there was minimum Japanese brutality and inmates even enjoyed hot showers for a year. Ballard's editor at Gollancz, Malcolm Edwards, says charges that Ballard had sensationalized history to make money showed "a complete ignorance of Ballard's career". He was aiming at "a fictional, metaphorical truth".

Capital

The Bishop of Durham will live to regret his unkind description of Ian MacGregor, Norman Tebbit, addressing a Brighton fringe meeting, claimed that Labour espouses class battles and economic doctrines which were avant garde in the late nineteenth century and still appeal to octogenarians in the Kremlin. They spring, he said, from the works of "an imported, elderly foreigner".

BARRY FANTONI



"My client's not in court, but he will be making a statement on Channel Four this evening"

Message received

The Police Federation learns fast. Last week its chairman, Leslie Curtis, found himself embroiled in controversy for his undisguised attack on the Labour conference condemnation of "police violence" on miners' picket lines. This week its magazine, *Police*, carries a subtler political message - a captionless front cover photograph of two policemen looking up to a "Get Stuffed Scargill" banner being flown along Brighton seafront.

PHS

Rates: how to cap the cappers?

by Hugh Clayton

It is more than 10 years since Mrs Thatcher, then Shadow Secretary of State for the Environment, talked jauntily about getting rid of local council rates. Her government effectively conceded yesterday, albeit without admitting as much, that it had barely begun to tackle the problem.

Hounded by supporters and scorned by opponents, it resorted to its ultimate weapon, an inquiry. The investigation will go far beyond rates alone to cover the whole of local authority financing.

Rate-capping, which allows ministers to pick lists of councils and tell them how much they can spend, is the Government's only answer to the rates problem at present. But supporters have been telling ministers for months that rate-capping is only a quarter of an answer to half a question.

Yesterday's announcement at the Conservative Party conference was a surrender to a host of critics in the party and in business. It was a tacit acknowledgement that years of effort had produced few results.

The announcement of a full inquiry will take even more steam out of the tortuous rate-capping process, which is now aimed at holding down rate rises in the highest-spending boroughs. Next year, the inquiry will be led by Mr Kenneth Baker, the new Minister for Local Government, who is content to be portrayed as the hard man chosen to wrinkle Ken Livingstone

and his Labour colleagues out of their fortress at the Greater London Council.

Yes, Mr Baker informed an increasingly doubtful capital soon after his appointment as minister, the GLC definitely will be scrapped on time. He then went much further than Mr Jenkin in dismissing with near contempt the warnings from Conservatives on the doomed council that the Government's plans for administering London after abolition were unworkable.

But, abolition affects only a minority of councils and voters. The rating system affects and annoys millions of people who are represented by every council across the country. Mr Baker will find it hard to produce something from his inquiry that has not been thought of before.

There was, after all, the immense Layfield report into local government finance eight years ago. But that said things unpalatable to Conservatives. It favoured local income taxes and the levying of rates on farmland. Detailed survey that it was, Layfield was not allowed to settle the argument either by the Labour government to which it reported or by its Conservative successor.

It is now more than two years since Lord Whitelaw was elbowing aside by the Prime Minister when he

was chairing a Cabinet committee that was grappling with rating reform. Last year the Rates white paper concluded lamely that evil as rates might be, they were the least of many evils. The Government then invented "rate-capping" which allows it to tell the spendthrift councils how much they can spend.

That was the best answer it could think of to the critics who said that rates were unjust because those who paid the most had the least influence on the councillors who charged them. Business pays the lion's share of rates while only a minority of voters actually have to pay rates. Commercial ratepayers do not regard rate-capping as an answer to their complaints about taxation without representation.

Cynical and knowing observers of local government politics predicted a deal early this year. They expected the Conservative shires to be persuaded to swallow rate-capping as a valid weapon against high-spending Labour councils in return for more favourable treatment for themselves from the state grant-giving mechanism. The favour was duly given, but the Conservative-dominated Association of County and District Councils have stuck implacably to their view that rate-capping amounts to unreasonable central interference in local affairs.

Since then the blows have rained down on the Government. In the summer the long dance executed by the Government and Liverpool City Council encouraged a host of Labour politicians in other cities to assume that "ministers" were frightened to use the law against them. They reasoned that the Government would be even more frightened to use it against a collection of councils acting with Liverpool next year.

Then along came the Audit Commission, a quango set up by the Government to investigate profligacy among councils. In August it said that Government policies were to blame for many of the rate rises of recent years. In September it said that the high spending of Basildon district council in Essex was caused not so much by extravagance as by a different view of local needs.

Basildon is one of the 18 councils chosen by ministers for the first phase of rate-capping on the grounds of extravagantly high spending. No wonder the commission now prefaces its reports with a prim statement that it does not intend to comment on Government policies.

But the Government cannot abandon rate-capping now even though its own legislation may offer opportunities for "capped" councils to make legal challenges against it. Mr Baker can scarcely conclude his inquiry by saying that rate-capping is a bad thing. But the history of past attempts at rate reform gives him little scope for saying that it is a good one.

Nora Beloff, back in Paris after her expulsion from Yugoslavia, describes the climate of oppression in a country which the West still vigorously courts

Tito has gone: terror survives

My expulsion from Yugoslavia, at precisely the time I was due to leave at the end of the last of my journeys before completing my book, could be laughed off as characteristic bungling of the secret police were it not almost certainly part of a sinister and fairly successful campaign to identify the Yugoslav dissidents with foreign interests and to brand them as traitors to their country.

Before stamping the expulsion order into my passport, the police tried unsuccessfully to induce me to sign "a receipt" for the documents they were taking which, on inspection, turned out to include an admission that I had met "hostile elements" and carried "enemy material".

In all my many visits to Yugoslavia in the last four years - and the police who have been watching me know very well - I have frequently met those who believe, as I do, in the rights of the individual against the party and state: an indissoluble partnership in Yugoslavia as in other communist countries. I have never once been to Belgrade without paying my respect and hearing the views of Milovan Djilas, the only man in the communist world who rose to the top and sacrificed power and privilege to disavow the corruption and incompetence of those he was the first to name "the new class". He spent nine years in jail and now lives in a police-supervised house, treated as a political leper by western diplomats who share his values but not his courage.

Most of my non-conformist friends are very much younger. The police found two photographs in my luggage: the first of Dobroslov Paraga who in 1980, when Tito died, had helped collect the signatures of 43 Croat intellectuals demanding an amnesty for non-violent political prisoners. The document was read at the Madrid conference on European security, and as a reprisal, Dobroslov, then 19, was arrested, starved for six days, beaten up, sustaining four fractures of his foot and permanent damage to his thumb, and told that if he refused to admit connections with terrorists they would do away with his brother Domagoj, a gentle intellectual who, as the police know, has become one of my closest Yugoslav friends.

Coming from a pious Catholic family, Dobroslov agonised for the religious rights of his fellow prisoners. A penalty he was placed in solitary confinement in a cage where he could not lie down, went on hunger strike and is now in the prison hospital.

The second picture was of Milan Nikolic, one of the small group of men arrested, released after a hunger strike, and now awaiting charges for organising unauthorised meetings. The officials could have chosen any of several dozen involved in this seven-year-old "flying university".



In Nikolic, they selected a graduate student of Brandeis University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology: the surest way of undermining the pro-Titoist tradition of the American Eastern establishment.

Knowing he was being followed by two policemen, Nikolic defiantly met me in a central cafe and told me the police were bringing a new charge of hostile propaganda after discovering a copy of the *New Left Review* in his flat. It carried an article which argued that the Serbs should allow the Albanians of Kosovo to form a separate federated republic. The police say that Nikolic had inspired the piece; in fact, he had written to London objecting to the over-simplification which left out the economic and social reasons for Kosovo's distress.

The most brilliant of my non-conformist friends is Kosta Cavoski who will shortly be spending a primrose as guest of Harvard Law School. He has already spent two years in jail for describing the inherent lawlessness of Yugoslav society. Last year, underdressed in his search for truth, he managed to get published a detailed account of how Tito, using familiar Popular Front techniques, started off with a coalition government, as agreed in 1944 with the British, and then systematically destroyed all its non-communist members.

As every visitor to the US and British embassies will be told, the

dissidents represent a small and often unpopular minority. In the other communist regimes, ordinary people concerned with their jobs and families accommodate themselves to the system, cheat if they cannot make ends meet and say in private what my dissident friends dishonour them by saying out loud.

Another friend is Serdja Popovic, a combative lawyer ready to take up civil rights cases anywhere in Yugoslavia and now also internationally renowned. The authorities are hoping to detain him from defending Nikolic's group by having him subpoenaed as a witness.

In Popovic's view, aggravated repression reflects panic among the leaders. After four years of declining living standards it now takes three times as much labour on average to buy a pair of shoes and 10 times as much for a kilogram of coffee - when this is available. No capitalist country is as divided as Yugoslavia into haves - those who, through emigrant labour or illegal devices, have accumulated hard currency - and the have-nots living on the wretched dinar.

Inflation is indeed the only way the weak and divided rulers can squeeze the workers' incomes (their own is untouched) and so pay off the interest on the huge debt raised by Tito and his associates when western capital was available. They live in constant dread of a link-up

between the fearless intellectuals and the frustrated, but ethnically divided workers.

As the US and British governments see it, my friends are trouble-makers interfering with the really important struggle within the Yugoslav leadership between the goodies who are determined Yugoslavia should pay its debts and the baddies who, in my view more logically, argue that as communists they should not be following an economic policy laid down by the IMF.

Sitting opposite me in the first-class compartment, when I left Belgrade, an old party member was insisting against the present rulers for ruining the country. I showed him the incriminating document which I had refused to sign and he chorled as he read it aloud to the assembled company. Yugoslavia's leaders, he told me, were now behaving like cornered animals.

Certainly, the system is in an advanced state of putrefaction: everybody shuns responsibility and nobody is accountable for the hugely overmanned state-controlled economy. It is impossible to predict how many months or years it may take before the collapse. But one thing is already sure: the Titoist version of communism is already too corrupt and too demoralized to be reformed from within.

Nora Beloff's book *Tito's Flawed Legacy* is due to be published next summer by Victor Gollancz.

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Hounds' watchdog

Small Worlds: an occasional series on unlikely magazines

masthead on page 2 strikes a more serious note, however: a silhouette of a noble-looking hound on a plinth and the legend, "faithful... even unto death". The front-page news is good news indeed: "PRO Dogs Wins the day", that is to say its fight to stop the electrocuting of unwanted dogs at Battersea Dogs Home. The RSPCA is also phasing out use of "the box".

A long opinion piece makes it clear that PRO Dogs does not support proposals to increase dog licence fees. "I did not enjoy the opportunity I had in the *Today* programme publicly to criticise the line vets have taken... and some of our best friends are vets. But I had to say that surely vets should be supporting dog owners and shouting the benefits of dogs, not supporting measures advocated by those who think dogs are dirty, dangerous animals needing new laws to curb them." One fear is that higher licence fees will mean "many more stray dogs turned out".

There seems to have been a bit of

a flap about some brands of dog chews possibly being cured with arsenic. Members are reassured on that score, and a juxtaposed advertisement for Chewdles ("we make them clean and we wrap them to keep them clean") reinforces the point.

The other charity that benefited from the sponsored dog walk was the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf scheme, run by the Royal National Institute for the Deaf with the help of PRO Dogs and others. The analogy with the blind is fairly obvious: hearing dogs are trained to alert their deaf owners by touch or movement to boiling kettles, doorbells, fire alarms and the like. It is quite a new scheme, and "firsts" therefore come far too thick and fast for a two-yearly magazine to keep up. It seems a pity that this issue had to miss out on the first-ever chihuahua hearing dog, presented to a Mrs Foley of Watery Lane, Bath. It would have gone nicely with the sponsored walk.

PRO Dogs, Hearing Dogs and the rest lead more or less logically to PAT (Pets As Therapy), based on the experience of mostly American behaviourists, predictably, who have found that elderly people tend to

live longer, the sick to get well quicker and the wicked to reform, if animals are somehow involved in their lives. PAT Dogs and their owners visit such unfortunes on a regular basis, with heartening results all round.

"Sir Peter Baldwin, KCB, chairman South-east Thames Regional Health Authority: 'As we look at some of our most pressing needs in the South-east Thames Region of the National Health Service, we find that looking after people is a matter not only of making them well, or keeping them well, but of making them happy.'"

"Elderly people are often very lonely. So are mentally ill people. The marvellous value of PAT Dogs is that they go straight through that barrier of loneliness. The result: happiness - so simply given."

Finally, advance notice of the annual Awards Dinner and Ball. Champagne buffet reception, four-course dinner of melon terrine, mushroom vol-au-vent, roast turkey with all trimmings, cherry flambe and ice cream, coffee and fresh fruit. Not bad for £20.80 a head, even if Willsted on a November Sunday is not everybody's cup of tea.

Tony Samstag

Argos, vol 8 no 2 40p. PRO Dogs, Rocky Bank, 4 New Road, Dilton, Wiltshire, RG20 6AD. Tel. 0132-84899

Ronald Butt

What the Tories want to hear

The class hatred and intolerance that was the dominant mood of Blackpool in, of course, conspicuous absence from Brighton. It would have been impossible for a working miner and a working miner's wife to have spoken at Blackpool as they did at Brighton. But I do not think the Tories would have refused a striking miner a hearing for a reasoned account of his case.

This year, Tory contempt and dislike is focused entirely on Mr Scargill personally as the only beguiling and manipulative of the mischief brought upon so many deluded miners against their own real interests. It may be replied that it is easy for Conservatives in conference to take a more tolerant line. They and their families are not out of work. Yet the truth is that many bring a breadth of social experience and background that enables the Conservatives' claim to be a classless party and to understand the impact of unemployment.

I do not mean by this simply that the Conservative Party relies on working-class votes; it always has. What is significant is that the activists at the conference represent all classes and a wide occupational spectrum. The debate on drug abuse was as good a testimony to the party's social concern as any other. I do not believe that Labour in its present state would ever take time to hold a reasoned and non-partisan discussion of this character on a social problem.

The Conservative Party is still respectful of money and success. It attracts people who want to "get on" and who have personal aspirations for their families for which they wish to take personal responsibility. They are the sort of people who cause despair in the Labour Party, which finds it very hard to sympathize with any kind of responsibility that is not collective.

The Conservatives in conference 25 years ago might have been described, not unfairly, as a party of rich men (who did not imaginatively know how the poor lived but understood that they should be kept happy) in dialogue with lower to better-off middle-class people who did not really want to know. Today the party's composition is radically different, not at all inclined to reply to class hatred with class contempt, or even to counter Mr Scargill's intransigence with its own.

On the contrary, it is a party of ordinary men and women genuinely disturbed by what is happening in the coalfields and puzzling over what should be done. There is understanding that unemployment and the fear of unemployment have been the weapons without which Mr Scargill could not have waged his anti-government war as long as he has. There is also a feeling that the Government must act more decisively to diminish unemployment - although there is no significant demand for a retreat from Thatcherite monetarism.

A party whose principal historical concern has been to maintain the fabric of society intact throughout social change, the Conservatives are nonplussed to see part of the country becoming used to political and social violence. Yet the appearance given by this conference season of something like a balance in politics between the Conservative

Party and a Labour Party hitherto to Scargill's policy of constitutional destruction, in the name of the unemployed, wholly distorts the true balance in the political nation. Even in the labour movement itself (quite apart from Labour voters) there is a hidden rejection of Scargillism which does not show itself. It should be an object of Government policy to release it.

At the Labour conference last week I talked with a younger trade union leader who may well lead a major union in due course and who, in his own words, a moderate who does not mind being called a right-winger. He made it clear that he had no time for what Mr Scargill is doing but pointed out that he could not possibly say publicly, but he wanted Mrs Thatcher to win. His attitude was more than obedience to a Labour imperative. It also plainly came from the heart because of unemployment.

When I pointed out that he could not want a Scargill victory through intimidation that undermined the whole concept of negotiations on which trade unionism was based, he did not dissent. He simply came back to unemployment and pointed out that the miners' strike was over a dispute that was political because it involved government decisions about the level of subsidy which, he said, determined unemployment in the industry.

I suggested to him that any private employer would have to base his actions on reasonable commercial criteria and on the availability of investment funds. That, he said, was something he fully understood from his own industry, and it was why the union did not press its employers unrealistically. I remarked that he had just given me a perfect argument for the denationalization of the coal industry to take the politics out of it. He did not dissent.

With leaders like this still in the trade union movement, with ordinary working men and women willing to defy pickets' intimidation, with the Government still leading in the opinion polls despite unemployment, it is surely clear that the apparent balance of political force between Conservative and Labour is a travesty of the underlying reality. There is no evil revolutionary movement of any breadth against this government. There is, however, an evil revolutionary intention on the part of a small Marxist minority who are able to use unemployment as a weapon in such a way as to make it difficult for responsible trade unionists to denounce them.

The Government's task now is to deprive the unconstitutional left of the strength it receives from the passivity of those in the labour movement who fear to denounce it because of its historical reaction to unemployment.

The Government must now produce a much more imaginative response to unemployment, which is not simply the consequence of economic policy but results from technological and social change. That is what the Conservative Party at Brighton and in the constituencies wants more than anything else from Mrs Thatcher, and she would make a great mistake if she supposed that it was merely a resurgence of the old case of "wets" against the "drys".

Paul Jennings

Thursday's child has lots to learn

Perhaps it takes a writer - indeed, a freelance writer, dependent on all sorts of other people's whims - to sympathize with or even spare a single thought for those who compose, presumably not without some kind of effort, words they just know are going to be ignored. The utterly redundant prose on cereal packets, for instance, all that stuff about "one third of a child's recommended daily intake of these vitamins, and one sixth of their iron needs" or "then they are gently roasted to bring out the full flavour, and sprinkled with real apple pieces". None of your artificial apple pieces here, eh?

Who has read, for instance, some words sprayed or painted in big white letters on the Embankment wall, only visible from the Westminster landing stage or the river itself? In that utterly different world down there, all postcards, children's police helmets, ice cream and little green sheds, this is the message I am ready to bet I am the only man in the world to have noticed. Let alone joined down on the back of my cheque book and subsequently thought about:

HUMANITY THREW ANARCHY

Actually it gives one quite a lot to think about, or should one say imagine. Was it done by some romantic G.K. Chesterton figure from *The Man Who Was Thursday*, that marvellous allegory in which one wicked anarchist after another turns out to be a goodie policeman in disguise, misspelling *through* to leave some complicated clues? Some kind of river smuggler, bringing diamonds or drugs or illegal immigrants in fast launches from Amsterdam, taunting the hated river police who once did catch him with a load of Bols off Deptford and got him sent down for two years?

Perhaps the slogan arose from a tremendous rift between splinter groups, as in all radical parties; in this case between highly literate, elderly working men well up in Kropotkin and Bakunin, veterans of Hyde Park Corner, able to argue their case, and ferocious young men who think that to believe in "correct" grammar or even spelling is to be already half way to fascist

authoritarianism, and have daubed this message to enrage their seniors? Or some quiet civil servant, with those all-the-same-old glasses, deciding that things have gone far enough, a passionate believer in order and good old English public decorum, thinking up this slogan, to mean exactly what it says, getting a friend to lower him with ropes at 3am with the paint for a message visible (at least with binoculars) to the hated Ken Livingstone across the river, to taunt him as Ken's messages on the GLC building are meant to taunt Mrs Thatcher?

Alas for the writer of this message. I've only just noticed it on the back of my cheque book because I've got to the end of it, and it so happens that on the day it was new it was the one in my pocket when I was walking from the memorial service to John Betjeman (whom, apart from admiring his poetry, as who didn't, I'd adored since the first day I met him a good time ago now. We were in some marvellously frivolous radio programme, in the Aeolian Hall of happy memory - heavens, it sounds *Edwardian*. A hot summer day, he was wearing his boater. With the other participants, Randolph Churchill and Nancy Spain, we went to an old pub of mine, the Coach and Horses. The beer was served by a very pretty barmaid. I mentioned this to Betjeman. "Oh, do show me," he said. Then, "Oh, you're right, she is, isn't she? You don't think I'm a sex maniac, do you?"

So, excusably, I see the writer of the message as a Betjeman girl; for this is what came when I got to the end of the cheque book and remembered:

O Wendy, trendy feminist, you're Pantaloon-suited, on the landing stage And spray sweet anger on the trippers there Who, like us all, inhale the bourgeois air O let me take you back to Curlew Town For tea when you have thrown the Government down Sorry that whoever wrote those words on the wall, but at least I read them.



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

SNACK FOR THOUGHT

It cannot be said that Mr Nigel Lawson's speech to the Conservative Party conference yesterday was his finest twenty minutes. He was, of course, unlucky: an awkward month's money figures have delayed a very necessary, but also popular, cut in interest rates. Mr Lawson is a man at home in his subject, respected in the City, able to argue monetary economics with anyone; normally, his inability to whip up the ranks of Tory faithful would class as almost an admirable defect. At just this moment, it was a little dangerous. The economic argument in Britain is in danger of being overtaken by fear. Were it not for the cement of opposition to Mr Arthur Scargill, the Tory Party would be cracking up into all kinds of policy divisions. The air is thick with suggestions that we could live with more inflation in pursuit of more employment, as if that were not the prime purpose of the Tory Party. But this soft-headedness is born of a very real worry about unemployment. Both the Tory Party, and that wider audience of those who voted for Mrs Thatcher in 1983, needed to be reassured that the Government is actively engaging in policies whose effect would be to contain and reverse the frightening unemployment trend.

Mr Lawson gave one necessary, if thankless, reassurance. He reaffirmed the Government's

commitment to "sound money" (the Chancellor has at least learnt to save the technicalities for technical audiences) and to the continuity of macroeconomic policies designed to reduce inflation.

He also offered promise of further tax reforms and tax cuts. Neither was exactly news: scope for £2 billion of tax cuts next spring is built into the Chancellor's medium-term strategy, provided he can hold his spending colleagues in line - this still allows room for a further reduction in public borrowing. It was also known that the Chancellor was intending to swing the balance of taxation further from income to expenditure.

Where he did offer food for thought was in his views on economic growth. The Treasury is, apparently, expecting output to rise as strongly in 1985 as it did in 1983, which means by at least 3 per cent. One percentage point of that, admittedly, represents bounce back from the coal strike, even so, the whole would add up to a modest continuation of recovery rather than the onset of recession. The Treasury has no mean forecasting record on both output and inflation, so Mr Lawson's optimism on both at least deserves to be taken seriously.

On unemployment, however - the Government's "outstanding worry", as Mr Lawson himself

put it a fortnight ago - the Treasury has consistently been proved far too optimistic. Even the growth foreseen by Mr Lawson cannot be expected to reverse the upward trend. So what does the Chancellor propose to do? Mr Lawson returned to his attack on wages: the main cause of unemployment in Britain is, he said, the determination of monopolistic trade unions to insist on levels of wages that price people out of work.

Leaving aside, for the moment, the other causes of British unemployment, Mr Lawson's views rebound with questions as to what he intends to do about this. He promised the Tory conference "a good look" at restrictions which tend to make people more expensive or less attractive to employ. The conference and the country wanted to know more. Mr Lawson is traditionally inhibited by the production of an Autumn Statement, and the conception of a new Budget, from sharing too many of his detailed thoughts with his party conference. Maybe we shall learn more about employment policy today from Mr Tom King. Just the same, it would have been encouraging to learn from Mrs Thatcher's senior economic spokesman that the microeconomic revolution trailed in his Mait lecture earlier this year had more immediate substance.

JUST DESERTS

The fines imposed on Mr Scargill and the NUM by the High Court yesterday are appropriate, both for the individual and for the group. If the contempt is not purged, the court can proceed by way of sequestration, as well as against an individual as against a trade union. This case has no connexion, in precedent with the case of the 1972 dockers. It has nothing to do with industrial relations. Mr Scargill and his union, have not been fined for violating any of Mr Prior's laws, or Mr Tebbit's - but for disregarding sterling everyday laws - the common law of the land - established time out of mind, designed to protect members of any kind of association from abuse by its leaders contrary to natural justice.

For all Mr Scargill's fulminations about "class justice" and "non-elected judges", the truth is that the case was brought by

ordinary members of the very class and category he was elected to serve. They won it because they had not been given the opportunity to cast their votes in due form for or against the course he sought to ram down their throats. The cost to each of them amounts to many hundreds of pounds of lost earnings. This is not a case of the bosses invoking the law to do down the workers, but of the workers invoking the law to protect them from their defaulting representatives.

The trade union movement will indeed have lost its soul if it can rally its legions against such a cause. The fines were imposed only after the judge had delayed more than long enough to give time for second thoughts, and are in the lower range of what the offences might appear to deserve.

The Court will have its way, and so it should. There is no

martynism awaiting Mr Scargill here and he probably knows that in his heart. If he persists with his contempt it would be better to imprison him than to seize his capital assets. That is both because imprisonment is the traditional and frequent punishment for individuals who defy the authority of the courts and because it would be a more appropriate and condign response to the nature of Mr Scargill's challenge to all legal authority.

With the Union it is different. A fine of £200,000 should be only a start of a graduated and persistent seizure of all its assets until the contempt is purged. Only in the face of such a process might the rank and file members of the NUM come to realize to what a lamentable state their union has been brought by the arrogance and intemperance of Mr Scargill and his co-conspirators on the Union Executive.

MORE THAN AN OFFSHORE ISLAND

One of the many questions raised by the draft agreement on the future of Hongkong is its likely effect on relations between China and Taiwan. Mr Deng Xiaoping and other Chinese leaders would like it to be seen as a blueprint for an agreement between Peking and Taipei. This much, was evident from their National Day speeches in Peking last week, which appealed to Taiwan to come to terms and described the Hongkong settlement as a suitable way to solve problems "left over by history". Mr Deng and his supporters have repeatedly called upon Taiwan to become a Special Administrative Region of the Chinese People's Republic, just as Hongkong is to become in 1997. And they have tried to make this offer more attractive by being even more generous towards Taiwan than they have been towards Hongkong, saying, for instance, that Taiwan can keep its own armed forces if and when it rejoins the motherland. But these gestures of friendship have cut no ice in Taipei. The authorities there remain adamantly opposed to any direct dealings with Peking, and this week in his only National Day speech President Chiang Ching-kuo - son and heir to the late Chiang Kai-shek - denounced the Hongkong agreement as a

fraud and the Chinese Communists as liars and traitors.

Chinese Communists and Nationalists thus remain as bitterly divided as they were when civil war between them first broke out more than half a century ago. It is easy to forget that but for events elsewhere this civil war would have come to an end many years ago. Only President Truman's decision to protect the Chinese Nationalists on Taiwan at the outbreak of war in Korea in 1950 prevented them from being overrun by the Chinese People's Liberation Army. Had he not taken this decision Taiwan would have been absorbed into China, just as it had been absorbed into China by the newly-established Manchurian dynasty in the 17th century.

As it is, Taiwan has developed into a prosperous modern state with American help and protection, while China has had to weather the storms of Maoist radicalism. As a result the two sides are now further apart culturally and economically than they have ever been. Nonetheless the sense that China is one nation, and that its division into two entities should one day be brought to an end, is still strongly imbued in Chinese on both sides of the Taiwan Strait - though not, it must be added, in

those native Taiwanese for whom Chinese Nationalism is as alien a creed as Chinese Communism.

Still, it will be many years before Taiwan modifies its present hostility to the Communists in Peking. The agreement on Hongkong, it is true, may help sway opinion in Taiwan; but only after it has worked and been seen to work - in other words, well into the 21st Century. In any case, it will take far more than the Hongkong agreement to convince Taipei that the Chinese Communist Party will not break its promises to Taiwan just as, say, it broke its promises to Tibet in the 1950s. For a degree of trust to be re-established the new generation of Chinese leaders now emerging in Peking will have to assure their counterparts in Taipei that China is set firm on a course of political moderation, and that Peking no longer regards national reconciliation as a pretext for Communist domination. These would be hard assurances for a Communist party to give at the best of times. After what has happened in China during the past two decades, no leader in Peking will be able to give them credibly or convincingly for decades to come.

Falklands leaseback

From Mr Alastair Cameron

Sir, At last week's Labour Party conference Mr Roy Hattersley argued that in view of the fact that, four years ago, the British Government was prepared to give the Falkland Islands to Argentina under a leaseback arrangement, they should not now refuse to discuss sovereignty.

He should perhaps be reminded that leaseback was in fact one of three options put to the Falkland Islanders in 1980. Not only was this rejected by them, but the Foreign Minister responsible, Mr Nicholas Ridley, was roundly attacked in the House of Commons by MPs of all parties on this very issue and the then Labour spokesman on foreign affairs, Mr Peter Shore, asked:

Will he (Mr Ridley) reaffirm that there is no question of proceeding with any proposal contrary to the wishes of the Falkland Islanders? ... Will he, therefore, make it clear that we shall uphold the rights of the Islanders to continue to make a free choice about their future, that we shall not abandon them and that

in spite of all the logistical difficulties, we shall continue to support and sustain them?

It is a pity that the Labour Party seems to have such a short memory. Yours faithfully,

ALASTAIR CAMERON,
Representative,
Falkland Islands Government,
London Office,
29 Telford Street, SW1,
October 9.

Chatsworth drawings

From Mr Neil MacGregor

Sir, Your editorial, "Free trade in art" (October 8), suggests that it was not necessarily in the interests of the British Museum to add to its "already sumptuous collection of old master drawings" by acquiring all the drawings in the Chatsworth package. It does not, however, address the question whether the interests of the nation as a whole have been well served in this affair.

Responsible only for the institution in their charge, the trustees of

the British Museum declined a group of drawings which, dispersed, could greatly have enhanced a number of our public collections.

Whether or not in this particular instance such an arrangement would have been acceptable to the vendors, the lack of any machinery for coordinating the interests of all the nation's collections has become distressingly apparent.

The whole system of our national museums makes it extremely hard for trustees to look beyond the needs of their own institution and take the wider, national view. At the time of writing, for example, the British Museum has not disclosed which of the Chatsworth drawings it will try to buy, thus materially handicapping any purchase attempt by other institutions.

As it is by no means impossible that other package deals may be proposed in the future, some new arrangement is now an urgent necessity.

Yours faithfully,
NEIL MACGREGOR, Editor,
The Burlington Magazine,
Elm House,
10-16 Elm Street, WC1,
October 9.

Keeping quiet at water meetings

From the President of the Guild of British Newspaper Editors

Sir, When the doors were closed to the press last year on water authority meetings the promises given to Parliament suggested that the public's interests would, to some extent, be protected.

Before every meeting the press would get a list of items to be discussed and afterwards reporters would be able to ask questions about the decisions taken.

Those promises were given three times to the Commons by the minister responsible. Since then, the Lords have been told that a code of practice enshrines as rights those procedures promised to Parliament.

It doesn't. The existing code - never agreed by the Guild of British Newspaper Editors, though this was also the Government's announced intention - says only that a list of items to be discussed at press conferences will be issued and that press conferences will "generally" be held.

After months of pressure from the Guild the water authorities' association has offered only a published agenda, omitting any business regarded as confidential and any on which there was not to be an immediate decision. Press conferences would be held, but they have given themselves a let-out by saying "other than in exceptional circumstances".

This we believe to be a blatant disregard of the promises given to Parliament and an invitation to authorities to please themselves what they say to the public.

It was enough to swallow the loss of direct accountability to the public without also having to accept a refusal to follow parliamentary guidance on procedures which would at least keep people informed about what was happening to their money.

Yours faithfully,
J. V. ADDISON, President,
Guild of British Newspaper Editors,
Cumbrian Newspapers Group Ltd,
PO Box 7, Newspaper House,
Barnstaple Road, Carlisle,
October 9.

VAT on books

From Mr Victor Sutcliffe

Sir, Having spent the morning carrying cartons filled with books, I was amused by Professor Maurice Cranston's notion (October 3) of books underpinning literature and scholarship. Contrarily, it occurred to me that literature and scholarship might sag less if publishers were to publish fewer dressed-up doctoral theses and indifferent fictions. The imposition of VAT on books would be unlikely to have the desired effect.

Professor Cranston draws a distinction between "serious" books and books for the mass market. He fails to point out that, by and large, these are published by two distinct kinds of publisher. Free enterprise may be a force in the mass market, but is hardly noticeable in the elevated spheres of serious publishing.

It is true that the profitability of serious books is marginal, but it is also true that this profitability is assured. The unit cost is calculated on a predicted sale, which is easy to calculate. Only the most draconian taxation would deter, for example, an academic institution from Hoovering up every serious book in its field of interest.

The occasional Montaigne or Booker Prize winner keeps publishers in the style to which they are accustomed, but it is fantasy to suppose that a smaller sale of these would reduce the number published of less readable books.

The Chancellor will determine whether or not the imposition of VAT on books would increase revenue and simplify tax collection. In a country where theatre tickets and television are subject to VAT, he will not waste too much time unravelling the semantics of the idea of the free dissemination of ideas.

Yours faithfully,
VICTOR SUTCLIFFE,
36 Parklands Road, SW16.

WS - his marks

From Mrs Jane Cox

Sir, Patricia Clough (October 1, p3) refers to the existence of three Shakespeare signatures. There are, in fact, six so-called "authenticated" signatures, four of which are, on permanent display in the museum of the Public Record Office in Chancery Lane; another is in the Guildhall Library, London and the sixth is held by the British Library.

The cash value of even these is in question as the marked discrepancies between the signatures lend credence to the views of most extreme anti-Stratfordians. Could the man write his own name, let alone anything else?

The signatures are discussed in a Public Record Office handbook to be published in the new year.

Yours faithfully,
JANE COX,
Principal Assistant Keeper of Public Records,
Public Record Office,
Chancery Lane, WC2.

Expert witnesses

From Mr Derek Davis

Sir, In calling for a royal commission on expert evidence (*Times* report of the International Conference of Forensic Scientists, September 25) Professor Stuart Kind considers that it is inconceivable that any court should qualify a witness and then condemn him as incompetent, or a liar, in the judgment.

Professor Kind is supported (report, September 26) by Dr Carol Goodwin Jones, who refers to an expert trying to introduce information not sought by either counsel, being classed by lawyers as a "bad expert witness", resulting in his not being used again. She implies that to

Rail parallel with pit closures

From Dr P. J. Giddings

Sir, There are signs that the proposal for some independent procedure for determining whether to close uneconomic pits is being resisted on the ground that it would abrogate the NCB's right to manage. Yet there is a close, if inexact, parallel in another public industry - the railways - where an independent procedure has been operating for many years without violating the managerial rights of the Railways Board.

I refer to the procedure under the 1962 Transport Act which requires a public hearing before Transport Users' Consultative Committees, who report to the minister on the degree of hardship entailed in the closure proposal. Closure can only take place with ministerial consent.

This was the procedure under which many uneconomic branch lines have been closed in the last twenty years, and many saved. After 1968 the cost of keeping open such lines on social grounds was met by the Exchequer rather than the industry and its customers alone.

There is surely a parallel here for coal. A similar type of procedure would mean that the NCB's

judgment on economic viability could be openly tested. It would enable the effects of closures on local communities to be taken into account. And it would enable decisions to be taken on a case-by-case basis, thus alleviating the sense of hopelessness felt by those threatened by a general programme of pit closures.

That should please the NUM. But equally it would provide the board, and the Government, with a procedure for closing some uneconomic pits after an open and independent assessment of all the consequences.

If the final decision rested with the minister, and that became a matter of political and parliamentary debate, so much the better - for that is how issues of such vital concern to our society should be decided, rather than by clashes on the picket line. It is a procedure worth exploring.

Yours faithfully,
P. J. GIDDINGS,
University of Reading,
Mansfield Hall, Kendrick Road,
Reading, Berkshire,
October 6.

Stepping delicately with Dr Runcie

From the Reverend A. V. Benjamin

Sir, When the theologian, Van Buren, came to address us as ordinaries at Cuddesdon on a particularly dicey issue the Archbishop of Canterbury, then our principal, thanked him for his talk, likening him to a cat walking across a piano top littered with champagne glasses without knocking one off. It is good to see the archbishop, on your back page today (October 9), continuing to display a like expertise.

It is obviously appropriate for the figurehead of the established Church to be versed in the rites of Janus; but his summons to us to follow him in exploring the middle ground itself needs exploring before it is obeyed. It can hardly be a recommendation that all Anglicans should join the stampede of pink clergymen currently attempting to fill the gap left in the centre through the adoption of extreme positions by the two major parties and the ineffectual posturing of the Alliance.

The virtue of the Church of England is not that it provides a golden mean, but that it contains within it both ends of the spectrum of thought. It will thus blackball neither John Selwyn Gummer nor Kenneth Leach. Our Bible would be a thin book and our pulpits mere museum pieces without violent words and extreme positions. The strength of the Church of England lies in its ability to contain these within it and the same is true of our Constitution. While violent attitudes can be struck and expressed within such family structures the less chance is there of that festering anger that can erupt into acts of physical violence.

The opposition within the Church to the present governmental policies should therefore address itself to answer the logic of their inherent honesty. The Good Samaritan was able to promise the innkeeper that if he spent more than the paid penny he would be repaid.

Those who would join our archbishop in asking what we are to have jam today must prove to the grocer's daughter how, other than by her present means, our credit might hold as good as the Samaritan's obvious did.

Yours faithfully,
ADRIAN V. BENJAMIN,
All Saints' Vicarage,
14 Oakleigh Park South, N20,
October 8.

From Dr R. L. Marshall

Sir, After looking up this morning, with many satisfactions, to the Archbishop's elaboration of the need for consensus rather than confrontation, particularly in the mining dispute, there are, still, at least two important issues on which I do not feel fully fed.

First, how can consensus of any stability be reached if the leadership

of one side is guided by a conviction and doctrine of the inevitability of confrontation and class war, modified only by tactical considerations, until that side is victorious?

Secondly, is it not likely that any consensus with such a leadership will be, not only temporary, but inadequate to the problems to be dealt with?

Yours faithfully,
R. L. MARSHALL,
High Church,
15 Beacon Road,
Woodhouse Eaves,
Leicestershire,
October 8.

From Lord Boyd-Carpenter

Sir, It appears that the "in" word for some occupants of the episcopal bench who are not insensitive to the allure of wide publicity is "confrontation". It appears to be assumed that this is evil. But when one is faced by people who seek to get their way by violence and intimidation and whose leader avows his purpose of smashing a democratically elected government it is surely right to confront them.

The antithesis to confrontation is appeasement.
I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
BOYD-CARPENTER,
House of Lords,
October 7.

From Mrs Virginia Stevens

Sir, Mr Edward du Cann calls the Archbishop of Canterbury "naive". Surely it is he who is naive. How can he, and other of his fellow Conservative MPs, dismiss with such unconvincing and distasteful epithets the reasoned, intelligent, unbiased and compassionate view of the social and political implications of the miners' strike revealed in Dr Runcie's interview with *The Times* yesterday?

In contrast to the repetitious, unyielding dogma laddled out by Government spokesmen during these past weeks the archbishop's truth-seeking insight offers a welcome shaft of light - from heaven perhaps?
Yours faithfully,
VIRGINIA STEVENS,
Hydon Barn,
Upper Vann, Hambleton,
Gedling, Surrey,
October 9.

From Mr L. J. Norcross

Sir, Having deserted theology for ethics, our spiritual leaders now seem intent on abandoning philosophy for sociology. Meanwhile, Religion blushing veils her sacred fires, And unawares morality expires.

Whichever way you look at it, we could do with a Pope!

Yours faithfully,
LAWRENCE NORCROSS,
Headmaster,
Highbury Grove School,
Highbury New Park, NS.

Future of Hongkong

From Professor David Gwill

Sir, Dr Mark Elvin (September 21) argues that the future of Hongkong is to be seen in the state of Shanghai. He argues that the majority of young professionals have secured or are securing the means to leave Hongkong and that, because communism is a system, it is incompatible with the capitalist system at work in the present Hongkong.

Of course there is evidence that many people are making sure of an escape route. There is also much evidence for those of us who live in Hongkong that, having secured their escape route, they firmly intend to stay for as long as Hongkong remains a vibrant and viable commercial centre. Indeed, in recent years, and even in the present year, former graduates of my university have returned to work in Hongkong in preference to overseas, thus showing a greater confidence than does Dr Elvin.

That the two political systems are incompatible is true. However, the

agreement recently initiated between China and Britain clearly states, I think very significantly, that travel between the PRC (People's Republic of China) and Hongkong will be restricted, just as it is now, after sovereignty has returned to China. This shows, I think, that the PRC is well aware of the problem, and is determined to overcome it.

It would seem clear that what the PRC has in mind is a long enough transition period, that is, from now until 2047, for Hongkong and the PRC to grow together naturally - something which is bound to happen if it is allowed to.

Finally, there is really no meaningful parallel to be drawn between Shanghai and Hongkong, the circumstances of Shanghai in the 1920s and 1930s being quite different in many respects from those of Hongkong now.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID GWILL,
The Chinese University of Hongkong,
Department of Music,
Shatin,
New Territories, Hongkong.

Social action for the young

From Mr Mark Gwyder

Sir, Anyone reading the extraordinary letter from Francis Catermole (October 6) would be forgiven for believing that he was the director of the council against and not for voluntary youth services.

He pooh-poohs the impressive statistics that 84 per cent of 15 to 24 year-olds would welcome the introduction of a nationwide community service scheme. He then goes on to imply that because there are a small number of opportunities through existing organizations like Community Service Volunteers, there is therefore no call to increase those opportunities.

I would ask your readers to consider the following simple propositions:

1. That the majority of young feel "counted out" at present, unable to participate in solving society's problems, labelled indeed as part of those problems rather than part of the solution.
2. Any initiative which would increase the number of opportunities for full-time social action by the young would be productive.
3. As demonstrated by Professor Marsland's survey, there are something like 300,000 opportunities for social action, and at the very most at present there are barely 20,000 young people involved in anything that could be described as full-time community service. There is a huge gap there to be bridged.
4. The case for a national initiative to boost the number of social action opportunities for the young would be unanswerable even if we had full employment. Social action by young people could improve the quality of life of the elderly, the mentally handicapped, the hospital patient, and of the volunteers themselves.

A pioneering new initiative is called for, not because we have mass unemployment, but because we have young people who could contribute much and gain much, and social problems which will never be solved by paid and professional care alone.

Yours faithfully,
MARK GWYDER, Chairman,
Tawney Society "Count us In" Group,
18 Victoria Park Square, E2,
October 9.

From Mr Robert Pettigrew

Sir, I write to welcome and applaud your third leader in today's *Times* (October 4).

It may not generally be known that the basis of a statutory youth and community service already exists in all those local education authorities who have striven manfully to observe the duty imposed upon them in sections 41 and 53 of the 1944 Education Act.

Additionally both statutory and voluntary sections of the youth service already make a substantial voluntary contribution of "service to the community" through the wide-ranging programme of activities offered by the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, surely the most inspired, sustained and significant advance in social, physical and recreational education this century.

Sir, the systems are already in existence: all they require are the modest resources which are commonly in inverse proportions to the benefits conferred on the young people concerned.

Yours truly,
ROBERT PETTIGREW,
Oriental Club,
Stratford House,
Stratford Place, W1,
October 4.

Electricity prices

From Lord Stoddart of Swindon and Lord Bruce of Donington

Sir, Recent reports, including those in *The Times*, suggest that the costs of the miners' strike are to be recovered, by Government direction to the electricity supply industry, directly in the form of a surcharge to the consumer.

We find this a little odd in view of Mr Lawson's statement in the House of Commons on July 31 last that the costs of the miners' strike "represent a worthwhile investment for the nation", a sentiment warmly endorsed the following day by Mr Norman Tebbit.

For our part we profoundly disagree with the Chancellor's opinion on this matter, but surely if the extra cost is to be regarded in these terms the nation as a whole, not merely users of electricity, should be invited to participate.

In any event it would seem that the Government has no power to impose such price increases. As the Earl of Avon announced in the House of Lords on December 8, 1983 (*Hazard*, col. 26), "the Government have neither the power nor the wish to impose price changes on the industries".

Yours sincerely,
STODDART,
BRUCE,
House of Lords,
October 8.

No cash on delivery

From Mr Tim Connolly

Sir, British Rail is finding ingenious new ways to make ends meet. Travellers at Sevenoaks station were recently informed that, when the new ticket machine was installed in the car park on Monday, October 1, 50p pieces would be among the coinage that could be used to pay the daily charge of 45p.

The notice went on to say that change would not be given.

Yours faithfully,
TIM CONNOLLY,
Kingswood Cottage,
Mount Pleasant Road,
Sevenoaks Wcald,
Kent,
September 30.



General of Antigua and Barbuda | Marriages

Travellers who pay from a corporate pocket are welcome passengers for the travel business. We look at some of the ways in which business travel can be both pleasant and profitable

Business travel

This year's special entry in the annals of civil aviation does not belong to the bellicose politics of privatizing British Airways, nor to the arrival of youthful multi-millionaire Richard Branson's cut-price Virgin Atlantic Airways on the knife-edged transatlantic route: it belongs instead to the rise and rise of a superior Business class known as J class. Innocuous as this new classification certainly sounds, it has nonetheless been responsible for the death of first class on certain intra-European routes, astute travellers will have observed that the first class facility has been retitled by British Airways, Air France, KLM, SAS, Finnair and Iberia on flights other than the intercontinental ones.

To ensure the confusion of travel agents whenever they consult their dreadful tomes on fares and rules, what is offered instead of first class is not necessarily "J" class often it is "C" class. This should not be mistaken for Club class, the name (also used for Business class) given to seats allocated to passengers who pay full Economy fares and which, in any case, are coded "Y".

As dangerous as generalizations always are, they are at their most lethal in the alphabetical dyslexia of

The Anglo-Scottish route: how air transport compares with train and hire-car

With Avis: three days' unlimited mileage at £30.50 per day plus VAT in a Ford Fiesta or Vauxhall Nova.
With British Rail: five-hour one-way journey-time at £50 one-way, £98 return.
With British Airways super shuttle: One-way peak £44
Excursion £26

the codes airlines use to denote different degrees of comfort and service; however, "C" and "J" tend to offer the same levels of service when they are on separate aircraft. This is not the case when they both apply on a single aircraft - for example, on British Airways' long-haul flights which offer First, Super Club, Club and Economy, with as many as seven different fares being paid by those at the back of the plane.

There are indications that the demise of short-haul first class

facilities will not be mourned except perhaps by the 25 per cent of non-paying passengers: the airline inspectors, catering controllers and Head Office boffins. According to a recent survey commissioned by the monthly *Business Traveller*, only 4 per cent of frequent travellers (those making at least one flight a month) choose to travel first class on short-hauls. On longer flights, those lasting five hours or more, 20 per cent travel first class.

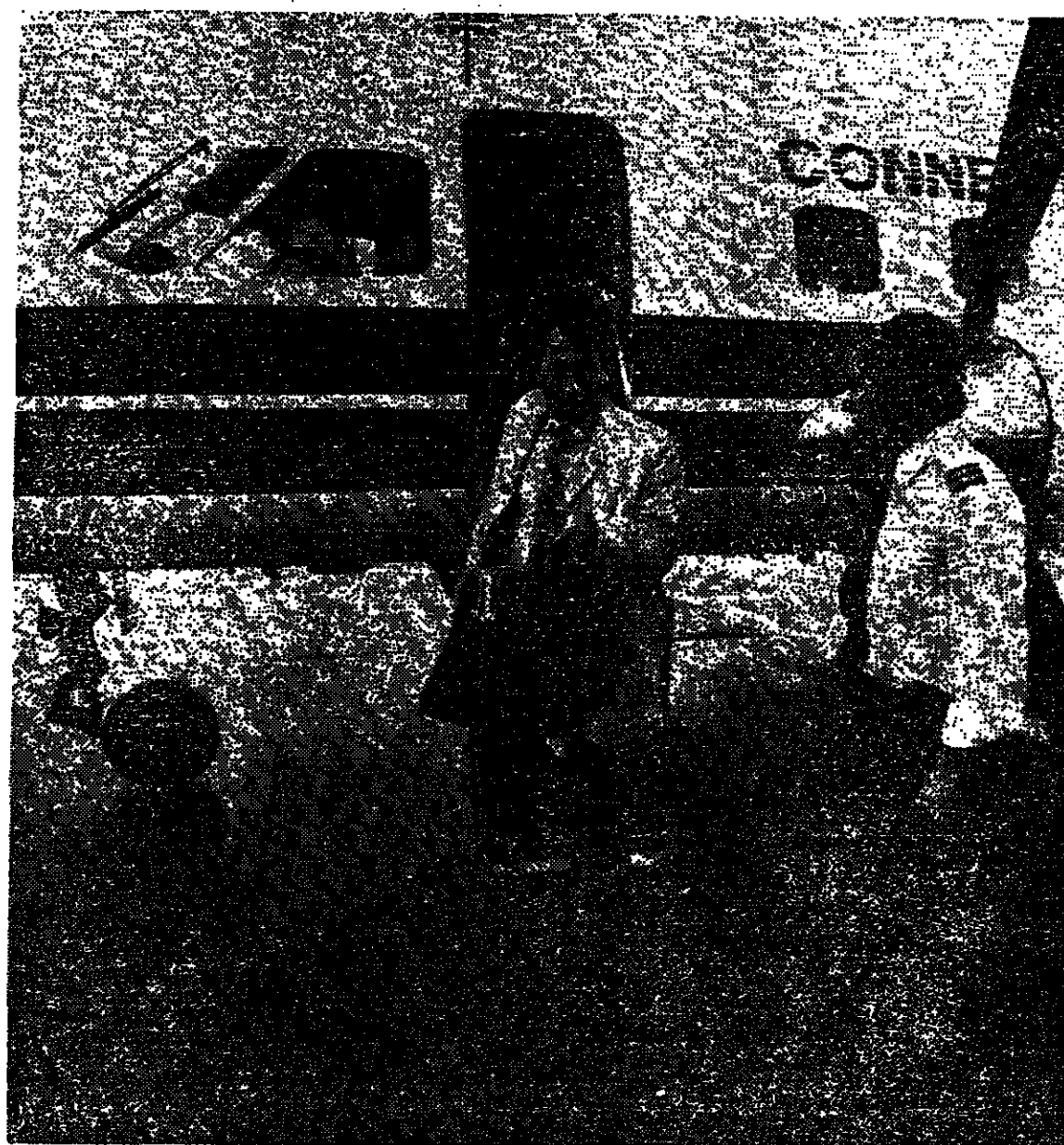
Meanwhile, as service in Business class continues to improve, some airlines are evidently having difficulty in maintaining the superiority of first class. Thai Airways has tried to win this particular battle by firstly eliminating Business class altogether, on regional routes and secondly by adding M6et and Chandon to the Business class wine list on long-haul flights while replenishing the glasses of those in first with Dom Perignon.

Elsewhere, the problem is one of distinguishing the class by name: on North West Orient's Scottish-USA route, the best seats are those in the Executive Suite, a zone combining First and Executive class with First class service ("J") replaces First on routes serving North, South and Central America and Africa. Grand class passengers are invited to take their "Siesta Dreamer" seats.

In the decade since the bravest airlines (TWA and Qantas) first introduced the Business class concept, most major carriers have come to appreciate that business travellers are worth cossetting and that they wish to arrive at their destinations in the best possible condition.

Although this has led to a degree of rivalry over adequate seat pitches, cushion widths and advertisements proclaiming the "widest seats in the sky" (not forgetting MORE LEG ROOM), it has not led to the recognition of Business class by that most divisive body, the International Air Transport Association (IATA). In fact there is no minimum level of service which airlines offering Business class are obliged to provide.

This means that carriers vie for consumer loyalty with frills: matching sockettes and eye-sockettes, neck pack sleeping aids and other uncomfortable-sounding gadgets. Where the business traveller's stomach is concerned - although it is the number of bottoms on seats which concern the airlines - he or



Business travel, 1984: more options than just jumping on a jumbo

she is engaged by "three-course, multi-treed cuisine, prepared by internationally-acclaimed chefs, all dishes to be accompanied by a generous selection of fine wines, champagnes and liqueurs". Whether or not this is what "Sir" or "Madam" really wants, as far as European airlines are concerned, this is all that they will get. For "something a little stronger", the traveller is advised to look to the other side of the Atlantic.

Few people, even the harshest critics of deregulation, would argue that the ebullient nature of domestic travel in the United States leaves the European market looking anything other than moribund. Former president Jimmy Carter's 1979 "freedom of the skies" campaign

turned the business of buying airline tickets into a bonanza of freebies, free car rentals and home videos.

The disparity between domestic fares paid by an American and his European counterpart cannot be explained satisfactorily with the usual arguments: oil prices, crew costs, landing charges, maintenance; discussion always returns to the price/competition factor. Is it incidental that the volume of America's domestic traffic is equal to all the rest of the world's domestic traffic and that America's overall airline traffic currently accounts for some 40 per cent of the world's total?

The best news for European air travellers came with July's Anglo-

Dutch agreement that carriers from either country could charge whatever fare they liked between the two countries, an interesting move which brought the lowest London-Amsterdam fare to £49. This was followed by a breakthrough between British Airways and Lufthansa which cut Apex return fares between the United Kingdom and Germany by up to £50.

Encouraging as these developments are, they should not be mistaken for a break in the dirty cotton-wool clouds that continue to enshroud some of the most expensive regional air fares in the world.

Carol Weingott

Deputy Editor, *Business Traveller*

Rosie Boycott spots the bargains

Two years ago when flying from London to Aspen, Colorado, at my own expense, I fell to chatting with a fellow passenger and felt one of the most galling humiliations in modern travel - I discovered I had paid far more than I needed, and could afford, for an identical service.

My airborne friend's journey was costing £350 or so less than mine. The only difference between us, except for the additional irritation that she had a window seat, was know-how, or horse-sense. She had bothered to inform herself, and I had not.

The cost of my round trip was a little over £800. Had I taken a discounted flight - bought with a "bucket shop" ticket - I could have made the same trip this year for under £500 (the full executive fare is £1,368). If I had pursued the matter I could have discovered a firm called Travel West (01-434 1078) and bought a London-Denver return for a derisory £270 and found a way of completing the Denver-Aspen section at a discount as well.

At the time I omitted to shop around for a cheap ticket because I wanted to be punctual, I was also ignorant of the well-established

tickets through bucket shops. Since the airlines often disavow bucket shops, and deny that they offer discounts (even though their economic survival may be geared to them), this ignorance is forgivable. No wonder that even experienced passengers fail to grasp that bucket-shop tickets and regular tickets are the same animal.

From the moment that the aeroplane door closes, every empty seat is worthless. To survive economically, the airlines have been forced to discount unsold tickets and space that they know from experience will be available on a very high percentage of their routes. Long-haul flights offer the best discounts.

Discount tickets are available to nearly every destination in the world and the savings are worthwhile. For example, from London to Tokyo you might pay between £745 and £778 for a restricted economy flight bought "officially", but a discount ticket would cost £620 from Euro Asean Travel (01-499 8485) £635 at Natrabu (01-491 4469) or £640 at Tourworld (01-734 3535).

A return trip to Sydney, booked in advance and subject to restrictions, costs £710 (an open economy costs as much as £1,334). A variety of discount operators such as Astral Travel (021-643 2077), who offer a £562 return, or Linkair (01-437 6117) with £595, or Travelbag (0420 88724), who have returns for £599, will undercut the official fare.

The savings are naturally greater on long-haul flights but many discounts are available to European destinations. The official London-Frankfurt fare, for example, costs

between £108 and £190, depending on the restrictions, but Euro Asean Travel and Seasmavars (0533 431527) both offer Frankfurt returns for £70, while Davies Turner (01-622 6477) charge £92.

Discounts can also be obtained on first or business class tickets. Many discount agencies negotiate deals with companies offering them club or first-class seats at economy rates, in return for perhaps £50,000 worth of business each year. For instance, the official first-class return to Kuala Lumpur is £2,970; the discount price from Bestways (01-930 3985) is £1,400, while Hogg Robinson (01 242 1091) and Pickfords Travelmart (01-253 1000) offer a variety of discounts on similar tickets.

Unoccupied hotel rooms generate no more revenue than empty plane seats and you can therefore find discounts on hotel rooms. Natrabu specialize in the Far East and offer up to 50 per cent discounts on selected hotel rooms; one night at the Jakarta Mandarin would normally cost £108, but with Natrabu it would be £54.

It is worth remembering, too, that most hotels will not hold bookings after 6.30 pm. At the end of the day the manager's duty

is to fill the establishment, so if you arrive with your luggage at about 7 pm the price might already have dropped by a third. There is often a ritual involved in claiming your reduction. Offer your business card to the receptionist, and ask if you qualify for a discount.

Excess luggage charges - particularly for sales staff - can often cancel out savings made on other areas of travel, or even cost as much as the flight itself. Airlines charge 1 per cent of the first class fare for each excess kilo.

To take 30 kilograms excess to Hongkong would cost £1,241. The London Baggage Company is the only company I have heard of which intends to beat these prices. By buying freight space in advance, LBC are able to transport those 30 kilos to Hongkong for £135; they will pick the luggage up from your home or office and if enough warning is given they will get it onto the same flight. (They can be contacted on 01-828 2400).

Insurance can be a major expense while travelling and the costs vary greatly. To take an extreme example, if you needed to be in the US for six months, you could pay as little as £15 or as much as £182 for the same insurance cover. The cheapest policy is offered by Pan-Am in their "Fly-drive" programme. It costs £15 and is valid from the time you land in the US until your return trip (not more than six months).

The travel business is complicated and has a great variety in its price structures. It really does pay to be well informed.

The author is Editor of Discount Traveller.

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Irene Farnsworth reports on the clubs that really hit the high spots

Living in luxury at 30,000 feet

Cossetting the business traveller has become a preoccupation with major airlines. Survey after survey has been carried out in an attempt to pinpoint needs, but not all the whims of business travellers can be accommodated. A survey by Scandinavian Airlines System revealed a desire for showers on aircraft, but even on a long-haul flight, it would not be feasible. The prospect of 100 people lining up for a 15-minute session in the shower was daunting, but SAS installed showers in its rest room at Copenhagen airport instead.

The airline has been able to meet the businessman's most important requirement. It was named the most punctual airline in a recent international survey in which it took fifth place in a poll on the world's best airlines.

In winter, 60 per cent of SAS passengers travelling between Great Britain and Scandinavia are businessmen. When a \$15m "new look" investment programme, now nearing completion, was begun, Lander Associates, the world's largest strategic design consultants, were engaged to re-define SAS's corporate image with specific emphasis on the needs of the business traveller.

In line with other carriers, SAS operates a club for frequent flyers, the Royal Viking Club. Privileges include the use of 17 Scanorama lounges, including one at Heathrow.



The use of an exclusive lounge with amenities such as newspapers, magazines, telephones and complimentary refreshments, is one of the main advantages of belonging to an airline club.

If you have ever seen anyone at an airport knocking three times at a discreet door, then disappearing behind it, the chances are they have the credentials for admission to a VIP lounge. Some airlines charge an annual subscription for club membership, other clubs are open to travellers regularly using the carriers operating them.

British Caledonian, the first airline to introduce a business cabin on planes six years ago, maintains regular contact with the 6,500 members of its Chiefain Club. Qualification

for membership is eight return long-haul trips; a weekly European flight; domestic flights twice a week; or a combination of these criteria. Quarterly bulletins are issued, highlighting special packages and Chiefain members may use the 21 lounges throughout the network.

Free service

British Airways Executive Club, which was started in 1982, operates a wide range of services for business travellers featuring an exclusive reservations service, a special check-in desk for members at most airports and more airport lounges than any other airline. Discounts are offered on car rental and hotels and there is a free message and mail service

through worldwide business centres. Membership subscription is £55 a year and a colour magazine is circulated monthly. Swissair is extremely selective in granting membership to its Travel Club. With quality of service as its watchword, the airline does not want to overload the amenities for frequent long-haul travellers.

Swissair, used to flying high in surveys, emerged as the international businessman's favourite airline in an independent survey for *Business Traveller* magazine. British Airways came third, after Singapore Airlines, and British Caledonian sixth.

In addition to running clubs, airlines are offering a complete package of organizing and monitoring business travel for companies. Sales through Pickfords Travel's 60 business

international carriers mean that transatlantic crossings made with them to connect with domestic flights in the United States can earn free travel points. Travellers must have an address in the US.

Entertainment

With an estimated £13 billion a year spent on travel and entertainment by British-based companies, specialist travel agencies are prepared for the business. American Express, the third largest business travel agency in the United Kingdom, has launched Travel Management Services to offer a complete package of organizing and monitoring business travel for companies. Sales through Pickfords Travel's 60 business

Two approaches to easier travel: David Autrobus (nearest LearJet), managing director of Northern Executive Aviation, at Manchester Airport, with passengers and David Whitehead, operations manager, far right; and above, symbols of discount travelling

travel centres, equipped with high technology systems to provide instant access to the reservations centres of all major airlines, are up by 23 per cent this year.

The concept of providing an all-embracing personal and professional service for the business traveller gave birth to the Executive Club International. Members are issued with a "gold card" guaranteeing a number of concessions, including access to night clubs and health clubs, facilities for entertaining clients at top sporting events, discounts on car hire and free travel insurance. The club, a limited company with a £250,000 turnover started five years ago as the London Executive Club but expanded its service worldwide in response to demand.

a bargain. The Sheraton Executive Traveller (SET) scheme guarantees room rates for a year, makes available special offers and holiday bonuses, car-hire discounts of 10 to 20 per cent, and free reservation and cancellation services.

Guests who use any of Hyatt's 115 hotels 10 times a year or more are entitled to a "Gold Passport", which brings a 10 to 15 per cent discount on the superior room rate, special cheque-cashing facilities, and weekend and holiday hospitality at most hotels; a husband or wife can stay free and (if the room is available) a second night's stay will be complimentary.

But even at this level, corporate clients are expected to have an eye for

Tony Samstag

Why self-fly is taking off

Businessmen with their heads in the clouds are cutting costs and saving time. They are qualifying as pilots and hiring planes for business trips within Europe. Flying is being looked on as "an additional useful tool," said Colin Heathcote, managing director of the Cabair group which runs flying schools at Elstree, Biggin Hill and Denham.

Cabair, founded by Captain Heathcote in 1969 as a charter air-taxi service and now with a £2.5m to £3m turnover, is experiencing a steady increase in the number of people learning to fly.

Captain Heathcote said: "I think it is because we are in a very good catchment area near London. And we have put a lot of our energies into the good management of the flying schools. We deliberately set about encouraging businessmen to learn how to fly by operating a professional unit."

The schools have 350 people in various stages of training and a high percentage are businessmen. A Private Pilot's Licence (Instrument Rating) course is run and about 25 pilots a year are trained. For those wanting to make use of their new skill, Cabair can offer an efficient hire service. The group operates a fleet of more than 70 planes.

Self-fly costs 30p a mile and with two passengers the charge per person drops dramatically. "It then makes phenomenal economic sense before you take into account time saved, because of the flexibility, and cutting out overnight hotel expenses," said Captain Heathcote. "Every day, several planes are hired by someone going somewhere on business. It is a trend I see growing."

Despite the fact that it now costs more than £2,000 to learn to fly, there has been no drop in the number of applicants. But self-fly is popular in the South-East rather than in the country generally, said Larry Flowerdew of the Air Transport Operators Association.

The recession, competition from inter-city rail services, greater frequency of scheduled airline services and shuttles, have all diminished the need for charter flying. Business in some parts of the country is in the doldrums but there are signs of a return to charter flying.

"We have been through a very difficult time, but in the main the feeling is that things are on the turn. Companies are returning to transporting teams of people by charter," said Mr. Flowerdew.

Northern Executive Aviation, based at Manchester International Airport, is one of the companies getting back to the level of activity it was experiencing before the recession. During the first week in September, 110 passengers were transported to a number of destinations.

David Whitehead of Northern Executive said: "We carry businessmen from a wide range of companies. Chartering can be cost effective especially if a group of people from one company are travelling. Manchester to Paris works out at £150 per head for eight passengers which is £20 less than the full economy return fare on a scheduled flight. Manchester to Dublin costs £65 per head for a full load of nine compared with £110 full air fare. There is also the advantage of being able to get them there and back when they want to travel."

With 200 airfields in Britain and good facilities throughout Europe for the operation of air-taxi services, it is possible to provide direct links to a towns and cities without major airports.

IF



Captain Colin Heathcote, managing director of the Cabair Group, which teaches business executives to fly

Hotels to fit all types of executive

fasts, constant supplies of coffee and other drinks, newspapers, magazines and books, with hostesses and stewards in attendance.

Separate rapid check-in and check-out services, and often a separate lift to the executive floor or lounge, suggest an analogy with first-class treatment at an airport. Secretarial help, telephones and telex, photocopying and banking services will also be plentiful, and sometimes at very competitive prices.

"Executive fitness centres" have also proliferated at the top of the hotel range, with swimming pools, tennis

and squash courts, saunas and gymnasiums of a very high standard. Medical specialists are often on hand to ensure that the pampered executive does not overdo it.

Trusthouse Forte's 200 hotels in this country (800 worldwide) offer a variety of business services according to the category of hotel. They also offer corporate discounts by special arrangement and in-house credit cards, some of which entitle regular users to discounts. The second-largest British-based hotel chain, Crest, also operates a "Business Club" by which discounts are arranged on a corporate

basis according to the volume of business.

The Sheraton chain, with 455 hotels worldwide housing almost 21 million guests annually, describes its "Towers" as offering "an hotel within an hotel" to cater for the needs of the harassed business traveller... a uniquely personalized service and supreme comfort all at a cost of approximately 20 per cent above the normal rates". A further attraction here is "ice-cold champagne on tap" in the separate check-in area.

But even at this level, corporate clients are expected to have an eye for

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مكازم السفر



More trains at 100 mph than any other country

Rail is increasingly competitive for business travel in Europe, not only for fares but also for time. And when it comes to creature comforts, rail travel is usually unrivalled.

Already, the French rail 168mph TGV train has made travel between Paris and Lyons, from city centre to city centre, quicker than by air, and a new direct route from Lille to Lyons will cut the overall journey time by up to an hour.

Night service

Over the next five years British Rail plans to spend £18m refurbishing 1,300 coaches, improving seat design and adding a total of 3,750 extra seats in second class. Telephones are to be installed in first class coaches, and external repainting will bring them into line with BR's smart new livery of two tones of grey with red and white stripes. Air conditioning is already standard on most InterCity routes.

For many destinations in Europe rail is a most attractive alternative to air. Sealink is proud of the 17,000 tonne St Nicholas, the biggest British ferry, which serves Amsterdam, Rotterdam and Belgium.

For businessmen, InterCity Europe offers all-inclusive Executive passages on the night

service, starting at £99. For day travel, Jetfoil has cut the London to Brussels time of the journey to around five hours and it is half the cost of flying. Hovercraft passengers to Paris will benefit not only from low prices but also from modern terminals - more efficient and less congested than airports.

One very popular cost-cutting device is the Travel Key charge card. Since its introduction in June 1983 about 16,000 people representing 8,000 companies have made use of the facility and the number is expected to double by the end of this year.

The card costs £12.50 and may be used to pay for travel anywhere on the BR network for Travellers Fare meals on trains (and for most Travellers Fare off-licences) and in station restaurants. The card is also accepted by Sealink services. Godfrey Davis Europcar car hire, Red Star parcels and at more than 200 hotels.

Sleeper journey

First-class travellers who make frequent journeys between Harwich and the Hook of Holland can also save money by joining the Double H Club. A courtesy card is stamped by the ship's purser on each journey; 10 single trips entitle the cardholder to a first-class return journey between any BR station and any Dutch station with free cabin accommodation up to the value of a single cabin. A company can be a cardholder, in which case the free journey is available after 20 single trips by employees; and the company nominates the recipient.

An alternative to flying would be BR's Executive Saloon, "a boardroom on wheels", available for hire at £200 single or £300 same-day return (plus the standard first-class fare per traveller), on InterCity high speed services on East Coast, Midland and Western Region main lines and on the route between Scotland, north east England, the Mid-

lands, South Wales and the West Country.

The InterCity sleeper service operates direct to many major cities, saves a wasted day or tedious driving, and also a night's hotel bill. New all-in fares are often remarkably flexible, allowing, for example, for one-way travel by day train.

A first-class sleeper journey between London and Glasgow costs no more than tourist-class air fare.

An InterCity Executive

Ticket can save time and effort for travel by BR by allowing the traveller to make most of the arrangements in one simple transaction covering first-class return fare, outward seat reservation, breakfast and car hire.

Taking the pain from the train - travellers in France with *luxa*, *calme* and a hefty helping of *fromage*

Derek Harris looks at the battle for car-hire customers

Car rental is getting more popular with business travellers. Last year the usage of short-term car rental was up 5 per cent and though the influx of American tourists has swelled rentals this summer, a large part of the volume increase is coming from the increased use of rented cars by industry and commerce, according to David Hardman, managing director of Godfrey Davis Europcar (GDE).

While GDE claims to be the biggest operator in car rental, it still accounts for only 14 per cent of this fragmented market. Swan National, part of the Trustee Savings Bank group, is running at about the same level of market share and is strongest in the corporate market. Avis and Hertz also have a strong presence. Avis and Hertz are subsidiaries of American companies Avis of Norton Simon and Hertz of RCA Corporation.

The only other big national operators of any size are Kennings and Budget Rent a Car which has been widening its United Kingdom chain of franchised outlets. Budget, which is another American offshoot now has 108 of these. But all these national operators together account for barely half the near £300m-a-year rental market because there are so many small, localized car rental operations, most run by single garages or car dealers. Their rates tend to be the lowest.

Chauffeur transfers from the airport

One strength of the national chains is that they can readily cope with the demand by business travellers for car pick-up in one place and drop-off elsewhere in the country. Most offer this service at no extra cost but the position on an individual journey should always be checked.

Though the use of rented cars is growing, the biggest single reason why business travellers turn to hiring is temporarily to replace the car already being used, either their own or a company pool car. This is why business users look most for

National or local: the good, the bad

convenience and reliability, according to Mr Hardman.

GDE has desks at 20 airports and uniquely at 73 British Rail key stations. It has 273 offices altogether around the country. Airports produce the highest volume of business.

A recent GDE initiative has been to offer chauffeur cars for the transfer of business groups from airports, for three-hour hire over lunchtime in London (£30) and also for four-hour evening periods.

Swan National has deals with some 350 hotels which allow it to offer combined car hire and hotel packages at rates which are much cheaper than if the two services were booked separately. A night in a small hotel with a day's car hire might be about £32, including a full English breakfast. Swan's Coverdrive service includes a national chain of garages and repair workshops.

Freddie Aldous, Swan's chairman, said: "We have to be careful our industry does not go down the path of the airlines industry. There are so many different tariffs for so many different uses."

But he forecasts a continued growth in corporate demand for rental cars, partly because the regular company user can secure considerable discounts - 15 to 20 per cent are not uncommon - from the big companies.

Mr Aldous said: "It means companies can contract out of expensive car fleet buying to a monthly or annual hiring deal

and get better service. It is no longer necessary to employ staff to run the company's own transport."

Hertz has introduced a European business class tariff which it claims to be the industry's first all-in price covering insurance and unlimited mileage. Drop off of cars between key cities in different countries is offered. It is offering discounts to employees of smaller companies reductions with A Business Partner Card.

While Hertz is stressing its personal service it is also working towards a system where the business traveller will have no need to go to a car rental check-in counter thanks to computerized systems.

Hertz has just introduced mobile telephones to its up-market prestige cars rented in central London.

Avis claims its market share of airport traffic has risen 11 per cent in the past year with a 19 per cent increase in town locations. More than 40 per cent of Avis business revolves around Heathrow Airport.

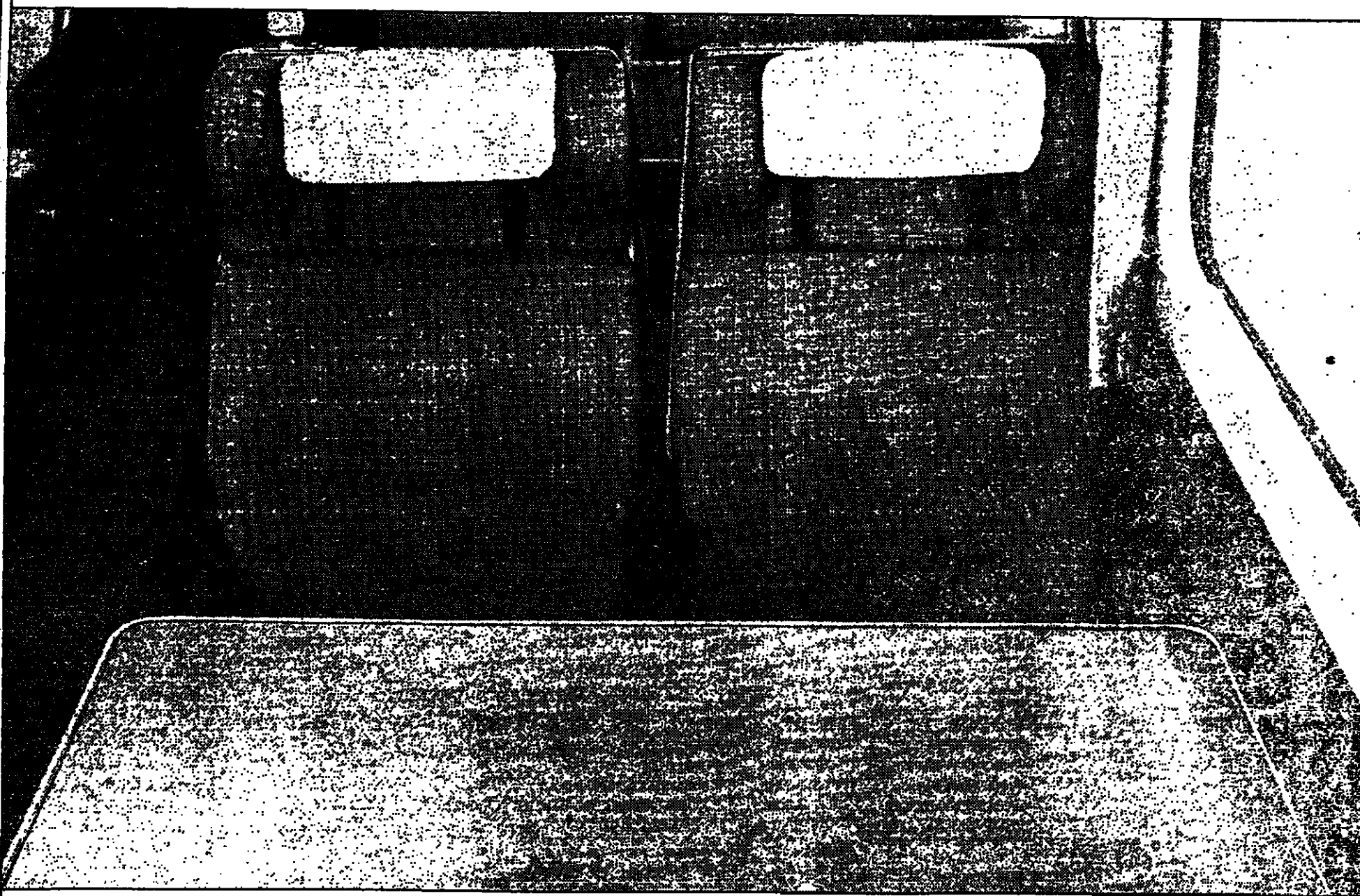
Avis has just started a streamlined car hire scheme in a link with British Airways shuttle services between London and Edinburgh, Glasgow and Manchester. Rental documentation is completed during flights to allow faster getaway.

Fast expansion of contract hire

Contract hire is expanding even faster, probably at the rate of about 12 per cent a year. Contract hire on an annual or longer basis offers companies an all-in package for fleet operation covering not only financing but all operating costs with additional services like replacement vehicles. There is a new trend to include the insurance element in the all-in packages. Fuel monitoring systems are also being offered.

Nearly three quarters of all new company cars are still purchased outright but contract hire now accounts for rather more than 10 per cent.

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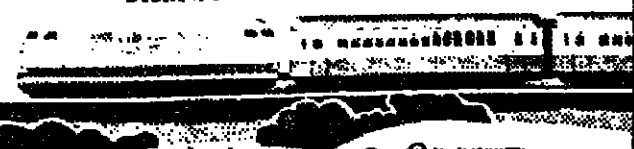
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Women lost in a system geared to men



Some months ago a hotel chain started the travel world by declaring that 60 per cent of women guests on their own preferred to sit alone in their rooms rather than face off-hand or discriminatory treatment in hotel restaurants or lounges.

But they were not telling the truth. The real figure was 80 per cent "but if we had said that no one would have believed it," confesses Penny Simpson, British public relations representative for the Ramada chain. The disclosure shows how much effort is needed from the hotel industry before lone women travellers feel at home in a system which is geared towards men or, at the most, couples.

Change is already on the way as some hotel chains are doing their sums and calculating that there is big money to be made from wooing the woman business traveller.

Pester protection

The proportion of women business travellers has increased rapidly in the United States over the past 10 years from a negligible number to 30 per cent. In Europe their numbers have almost doubled in the past three years and in Britain they account for between 15 to 20 per cent of hotel guests. The ladies with the briefcases have become the fastest growing sector of a rapidly expanding market and "there is great potential there" as one executive commented happily.

Companies who have taken the trouble to ask what their women business guests really want have all come up with the same answers: the same respect and attention as a man and service which enables them to stay well-groomed. Protection from pestering comes into it, although for most this is not a major worry.

They found that a woman who is made to feel at ease and well looked after in a hotel will come back again and again. If a woman is insulted, her custom will be lost for ever.

A high-powered woman executive, who hosted a conference at one of London's leading American hotels, provides an example. As the meeting dragged on into the night she had to go down to the foyer to collect some papers; on her return she was barred from the lift by a floor manager who, inexplicably mistaking her profession, said: "I'm afraid we do not allow women to accompany gentlemen to their rooms at this time of night."

Furious complaints and grovelling apologies did nothing to heal the wound. "I told them I shall never set foot in that hotel again," she says. "It has lost them an awful lot of business."

Many women travellers feel they could write a book about the prejudices and sheer thoughtlessness which often makes travelling less than pleasant. An American, infuriated at being ignored at breakfast, finally put her napkin on her head: the waiters came running. "We thought you were waiting for your husband," they said.

Angela Davies, a company secretary from Manchester, says she often arrives at hotels with male aides to claim rooms booked in her name, to find the staff will only deal with the man, as if she was simply the wife, secretary or "bit of fluff". "It's embarrassing for the man, too," she says.

Two big international chains who are taking the woman traveller seriously, Crest Hotels and Ramada, say they have been holding courses to train their staff out of the old, automatic assumptions and into a new attitude: spot the host and behave accordingly; speak to the person who booked the rooms, never assume that a woman is merely an appendage to a man.

Staff are taught to keep a protective eye on single women in the bar, an area where misunderstandings may arise. "I always take my briefcase as a kind of prop, to show I'm there for a drink and not a man," says Frau Kathrin Sommer, a fashion buyer from Hamburg. "But then, why should one need to, why should a woman feel awkward to drink alone in a bar?"

Receptionists are instructed to hand keys to the porter without announcing the room number of the new arrival to the whole of the reception area. Ramada have put good locks, chains and peep-holes on their doors.

Much attention has been paid to the rooms, which businesswomen often need to use for interviews or meetings. Both hotel chains have aimed to make them look more like sitting rooms, with the bed discreetly tucked away against the wall. Crest have chosen, Laura Ashley prints and duvets, in its Ladycrest rooms, an ultra-feminine touch which some women might feel they could do without.

Tight control

Hairdryers, long mirrors and skirt hangers are provided and they say - irons and ironing boards are available: the first priority after a long journey. This writer's prize, however, would go to the hotel which has a hairdresser that opens at 8 am, and not - as so often happens - at 10 am, long after the day's work has begun.

Campaigns such as Crest's and Ramada's are clearly easier in organizations with tight central control of policy.

Trusthouse Forte, a varied group, say the kind of service being offered by Crest and Ramada would be available in their best hotels anyway, while the more modest ones are out to attract more customers, whatever their sex.

Patricia Clough



Restaurant to relaxation: mixed doubles at a business lunch in London at the Carlton Tower Hotel, top, and the perfect end to a business trip - at ease on British Caledonian.

Murray Cabot on how to find trouble-free transport

No tips - no hassles

There are many things even a seasoned traveller can do to save money. First, you will never save more than by being smart about air fares; you are best neither by the euphoria of a deal made nor the gloom of a deal lost.

There are a lot of bargains around that don't involve being at Gatwick to catch the 0200 plane to Belize. In my last job I always felt that going first class to New York was not really a value for money and yet a mixture of laziness and hedonism left me travelling up front. New York work for a financially sound but less well-off organization, I have discovered that not only is Club Class excellent, but that I can go non-IATA club for less money and less hassle.

Because People Express charges its Premium Class passengers for food and drink, businessmen don't seem to want to know, with the result that on a recent flight back from the US - right up front in leather seats - I was the only person in the section; enough room for a party and no-one to party with. The price of the round trip was several hundred pounds less than IATA club and it seemed that I could change my flight at will.

Silly prices

Then there are other deals - one IATA Lines allows you to fly around the world (if that's what you want) first class for around £2,000. About the only condition is that you don't double back, and in any case who would want to do that unless you are working on someone else's credit card?

If you wish to avoid the silly prices charged by hotels in the centre of large European cities (of which London - in terms of

the average executive's pay - is perhaps the most silly) then a short taxi ride from the middle should reduce the bill by around 30 per cent. Unfortunately a sort of snobism seems to have grown up about where you stay so that quite soon after the question "Where did you go to school?" comes "What hotel are you staying at?" You may not have gone to the right school, but for cash you can stay at the right hotel, hence the temptation to spend.

My only experiment at reducing hotel prices outside Europe came when, sensing that friends with whom I normally stay in New York were needing their spare room, I contacted a try a less expensive hotel quite close to the centre. Although nothing much happened to me, I would definitely recommend the place in next year's demolition plans.

Finally, on the subject of hotels, some money can be saved in two other ways: most hotels (outside the US and Canada) treat their phone charges rather in the same way as they treat their wine charges - they double or triple them, so phone the office or get them to phone you back at the hotel. Remember though that the rate at which a call is charged depends on the time at the place the call is made rather than the time at the place the call is made to.

Second, a small point 15 per cent is often added to the bill for room service so when your painting, waiter is standing there with fingers caressing an open palm, show no pity.

Unless you are being taken out to nightclubs - don't. To the proprietors you look like the largest ship in the world, steaming up the channel in full

moonlight. Your host will know the ropes, you won't.

Taxis are another source of amazement - either to your boss when he sees the bill, or the amounts they demand when it's you who is in a tight spot. If you have ever tried bargaining with a taxi when you want to get from the international airport to the centre of Sao Paulo, then you'll know. In this particular case, it's a better idea to go onto Rio with those nice airport people and fly back into the city centre on a local plane the next day - its only 10 minutes from downtown.

The best way to save money on taxis is to be aware of at least some racks.

Racket one: The factor of 10 fiddle. For example when flying into Hongkong and heading for your hotel (OK you've given up trying to save money and its the Mandarin) on the island, you will be told that you have to change taxis.

Heat goes off

What then may happen is that the first cab tries to charge you the fare multiplied by a factor of ten. Best advice here is to take the hotel limousine (but tell them you're coming).

Racket two: The failed meter fiddle only spotted from JFK to Manhattan - is when the cab driver starts to whine about how his cab's not working too well. He then reaches under the dashboard - and two things happen - first the meter stops working and then the heat goes off.

He mumbles something about the meter being hors de combat, (not really, but the Brooklyn equivalent) and it being "OK".

The result is that you end up by being pressured to pay more than the full fare whilst the cabbie pockets the lot.

Cheque or cash: the \$64,000 question

Cash, travellers' cheques, Eurocheques, credit cards... which is the best way to take your spending money abroad? The safe answer is probably all of them.

The least useful method is your standard sterling cheques, backed by Eurocheque encashment cards. Although this is simple (all you need is the card, apart from your cheque book) these can only be used at banks - shops will not accept them. Nor, for that matter will some banks on the Continent and those that do charge 80p or more on each cheque on top of what your own clearing bank will charge. And they are, of course, only useful for travel in Europe.

The most useful method is undoubtedly cash, either in sterling or currency of the country you are visiting. Apart from the small exchange commission charge, cash costs nothing and can be used anywhere. But since it can so easily be lost or stolen with no compensation for sensible traveller would carry more than a fairly small proportion of his funds this way.

Two elaborations on the cheque theme are travellers' cheques, of course, the Uniform Eurocheques. The former from well known names are widely accepted and can be used in shops, restaurants and hotels as well as banks. Although it can be more expensive to take currency travellers' cheques, rather than sterling ones (since a second commission has to be paid on any surplus changed back into sterling at the end)

there are advantages. The rate of exchange given by a shop or restaurant on a sterling cheque is likely to be considerably worse than that given by a bank selling currency travellers' cheques.

Uniform Eurocheques, offered by the Midland and National Westminster banks, are also useful. Uniform consists of a chequebook which can be used to write cheques in any European currency, backed by a cheque card. Although there is a 1.25 per cent commission when they are used at a bank to get cash, there is, again, the advantage of getting a bank's exchange rate and not that of a retail outlet. These cheques are widely used on the Continent and thus widely accepted. Moreover, the card can be used in some automatic cash dispensing machines in Spain and France. Here, again, though Uniform Eurocheque is only useful in Europe, whilst travellers' cheques can be used in most parts of the world.

Finally, credit cards. All the main card names - Access, Visa, American Express, Diners Club - are widely acceptable in western countries. They can all

be used in shops, restaurants and hotels and can also be used to withdraw cash.

An advantage of Access and Visa is that since they are accepted by many banks the user has a wide choice of cash outlets. Amex and Diners Club can generally only be used to withdraw cash from the issuer's local office - and there is likely to be only one of those in town. Charges on cash withdrawals vary widely, from Access's 0.06 per cent per day on outstanding advances to Diners Club's 4 per cent flat fee on each withdrawal.

The type of money a businessman takes abroad with him may well depend on where he is going. Clearly, some of the methods mentioned above will only work in some countries. In western Europe and America credit cards are probably the simplest way of paying for most things - they are easy to carry and, unlike travellers' cheques, the money does not have to be put up front in advance. But to be safe, it is wise to have several different cards since they may not all be accepted in the same shops and restaurants.

Travellers further afield, for instance in many parts of Asia, would be sensible to take a large amount of good old fashioned travellers' cheques. Even if you cannot easily find a bank or miss their opening times because of their unfamiliarity, travellers' cheques in the local currency can, in many countries, be used as cash.

Richard Thomson

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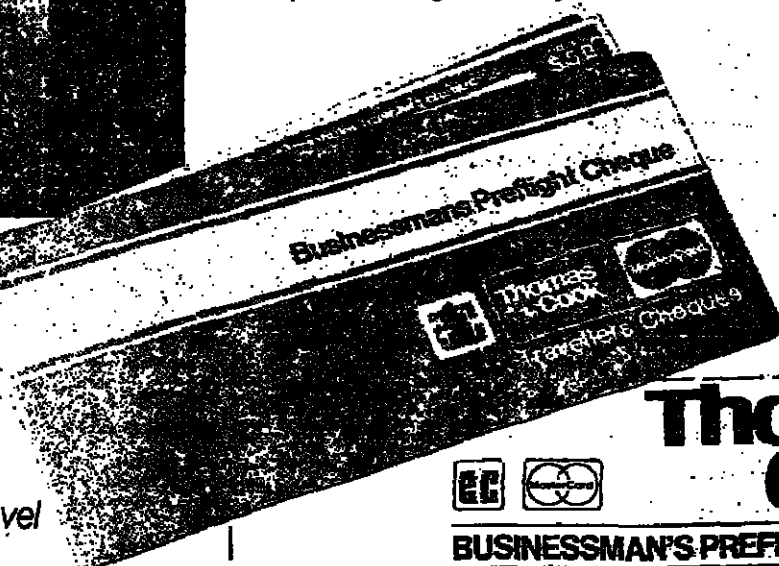
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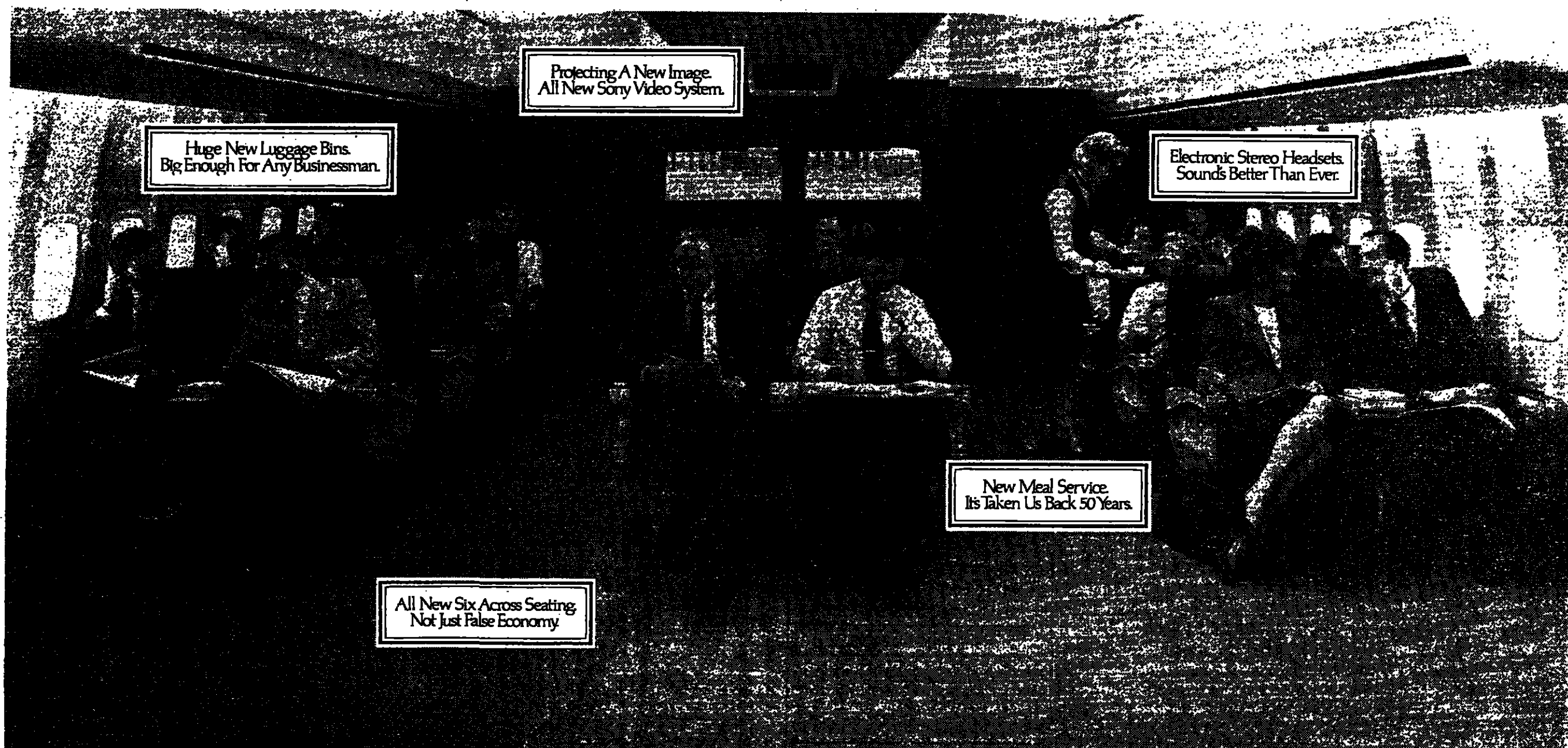
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1	BUILDING AND ROADS	
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3	Phoenix Timber	
4	Rowell & Lye	
5	Lang Ltd	
6	RAC	
7	HAT	
8	Brickhouse Dudley	
9	Amec	
10	Gleason (AU)	
11	Californ	
12	ELECTRICALS	
13	SIC	
14	Thorn EMI	
15	Chelwood	
16	Whitworth Elec	
17	City Elect	
18	Mairhead	
19	Murtec	
20	Sound Diffusion	
21	Wholesale Filing	
22	Farnell Elect	
23	INDUSTRIALS E-K	
24	Grainco	
25	Platts	
26	Eastern Prod	
27	Johnson Marley	
28	Hawker Siddley	
29	Herman Smith	
30	IMI	
31	Evode	
32	Clywed	
33	Mail (NI)	
34	FOODS	
35	AB Food	
36	Urd Biscuits	
37	RHM	
38	Low (Wm)	
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1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Ytd	P/E
SHORTS							
1	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
2	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
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88	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
89	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
90	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
91	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
92	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
93	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
94	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
95	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
96	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
97	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
98	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
99	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10
100	100	95	British American	100	-5	100	10

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Ytd	P/E
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THE TIMES

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Takeover tips from the Brooke Bond defeat

Brooke Bond's defences were swiftly and decisively broken yesterday when Rowe & Pitman, using its particular skills on Unilever's behalf, went into the market and emerged with 30 per cent of Brooke Bond's equity, bought at a cost of £165m. It was the biggest market operation of its kind. At the end of the day, which also saw Unilever raise its formal offer from 114p to 125p, Unilever held 57.1 per cent of Brooke Bond; the seige, which had begun on September 3 after Tate & Lyle had made an initial assault as long as July 23, was over, except for an exchange of warring words with Brooke Bond's chairman, Sir John Cuckney.

The fall of Brooke Bond is another tactical triumph for Morgan Grenfell, the sweeter in that lards, who had long been Unilever's merchant bankers, is acting for Brooke Bond. True, had Goliath not beaten David on this occasion, the chairman of Unilever might have done more than call a spade a shovel in the way of Lancastrians, he would probably have used it to beat his new merchant bankers about the head. Unilever's acquisition of Brooke Bond is, however, more than a simple case study in relative size and weaponry, and as such it deserves to be examined by other major companies and their corporate advisers.

It would be ridiculous to suggest that at the first approach by a big company, a smaller company should immediately capitulate. The first bid price, almost by definition, will be gained from a firm negotiating stance. But there are points to be lost from a protracted defence, which may have more to do with the *ancure* of the defending board than rational calculations of the maximum benefits that might be won as for directors, senior management, employees and shareholders alike. Defence at any cost is also likely to involve tactical mistakes.

Brooke Bond's defence, the end, was notably strident, and unlikely to prevail against a determined giant like Unilever. The major miscalculations were two. In the first place, Brooke Bond banked on intervention by an American bidder, ignoring the fact that US companies do not like contested bids, and would be

disinclined to confront Unilever, whose size and standing in US is respected.

Secondly, Brooke Bond and its advisers clung to the old-fashioned belief that the word is more powerful than the cheque book. The judgment of terms is now with hard-nosed fund managers, for whom performance, their own and that of the company bid for, is critical. A management with an indifferent record will not normally be given a second chance.

In the early stages of a contested takeover, the bidder is prepared to pay a good deal for the endorsement of the defending board. But beyond a certain stage, the possible premium will be pared, the terms and conditions for senior managers will be forthcoming, and shareholders will have to wait longer for their money.

The 125p offer, with its loan note alternative, is technically Unilever's final offer under the Takeover Code. It expires on October 26. The bid values Brooke Bond at £389m, a nine per cent increase over the first Unilever offer and a third more than the Tate & Lyle bid which signalled the start of hostilities.

Brooke Bond shareholders are undeniably winners. Just three months ago their shares were worth less than 70p and the 125p offer gives them an exit price-earnings ratio of 12 times 1984 forecast earnings, and 10 times 1985 forecast earnings. Such a price poses the question of what Unilever will do with the assets. Mallinson-Benny, arguably the beginning of Brooke Bond's downfall, and Baxters, the butchers, might be worth £30m.

The full benefits to Unilever will be evident in the longer term. Brooke Bond's branded groceries urgently need development. With Brooke Bond's business Unilever controls around 15 per cent of the world packet tea market.

For the eclipsed company, Tate & Lyle, whose offer is officially withdrawn today, the outlook is more problematical. It is effectively thrown back on north American acquisitions to implement a growth policy. Brooke Bond has lost its struggle to stay an independent household name. Tate & Lyle has no wish to suffer the same fate.

£100m incentive for City self-help

It was inevitable that there would be loose ends after the all-night negotiating session to rescue Johnson Matthey Bankers. But the more that emerges, the stranger the whole story becomes. To start with, the need for further indemnities from more or less interested City bankers - first for the putative takeover of JMB by the Bank of Nova Scotia and now for the Bank of England - confirms that the deterioration in JMB's balance sheet, which took so long for the Bank of England and auditors Arthur Young to unravel, is still indeterminate over a wide range.

Not only, it appears, could the £120m of original capital and the £50m extracted from the Johnson Matthey parent group be lost. A further £100m could be needed.

The Bank of England's Acaas-style technique of negotiating with each separate group in different rooms has left confusion about who agreed to what.

Both the Accepting Houses, as we revealed yesterday, and more vehemently, the clearing banks are becoming disgruntled. As they talk among each other in a less intense atmosphere, they are wondering what they have let themselves in for. They are concluding, with some logic, that they have let themselves in for a rotten deal: commitments to JMB and the Bank of England if things go badly, but no benefits if JMB's loan portfolio works out better than expected.

The Bank of England, conversely, could lose only £10m under the indemnity scheme, but could net 100 per cent of a substantial profit on its £1 investment if the later, has her examinations of JMB's business turn out to have been excessively cautious.

The lesson being meted out by the Bank is, however, an important one that should be rammed home for the future. The Bank agreed to a state takeover of JMB only after the Nova Scotia deal broke down and it had failed to badger the banks into an alternative private sector solution.

We can never be sure whether or not the private sector would have cooked up a solution if the Bank had refused outright to do the decent thing. In principle, there is every reason why the banking industry should sort out its own problems like the main building societies and life assurance companies have done in the past.

Despite its vehement denials, the Bank must now realize that it has given the impression that it stands behind internationally important London markets, a formidable open-ended commitment in the City's brave new world. If it can make the indemnities stick, it will show the banks they cannot opt out of losses, although they may opt out of the potential profits from private sector rescue.

US approves Bill to protect computer chips from piracy

From Bailey Morris, Washington

The House of Representatives has approved legislation designed to protect for the first time computer companies from domestic and international "pirates" who steal costly computer chip designs to make counterfeit products.

If President Reagan signs the Bill this week, as expected, the semiconductor chips which are the basis of microcomputer technology will be protected under Federal copyright laws.

The chips, used to operate computers, control car engines, and activate hundreds of other electronic products, take years to develop at a cost estimated at more than \$100m (£82m).

In recent years, as the international technology race has intensified, the rate of chip piracy has escalated, resulting in complex international legal suits and seizures of shipments by customs authorities.

The American semiconductor industry, which is in fierce competition with Japanese rivals, petitioned Congress for the protection on grounds that present copyright and patent laws did not sufficiently protect

their technology in the rapidly changing chip market.

Recently, tensions have heightened as Japanese companies have tried to enter the market for complex "logic chips", such as microprocessors where American companies

have an edge. The Intel Corporation last year accused a large Japanese manufacturer of stealing one of its microprocessor designs but settled the claim out of court.

Last week, a federal prosecutor in California brought the

first criminal charges for copyright infringement against two importers accused of attempting to sell fake Apple computers in the American market.

Legal authorities said, however, that in the absence of a new Federal law extending copyright protection to chips, it was doubtful that the charges would stand. In addition, they said other nations would have to adopt similar laws.

A house committee report which accompanied the Bill said: "We are aware that the United States is taking a first step towards collaborating a system of protection which has international implications."

The new law would extend protection to designs called masks which are patterns of wires and switches etched on silicon wafers about the size of a fingernail.

A chip pirate can photograph these designs and duplicate the mask at a cost estimated at less than \$50,000. The House Bill would protect these designs for up to 10 years because of the fast-moving nature of the computer design industry.

Worry on trade curbs

Congressional officials have completed lengthy negotiations on a compromise trade Bill. It contains wine and footwear provisions of concern to Europeans but avoids clearly protectionist measures which had threatened to ignite a new trade war.

The complex legislation invests the President with broad authority to enforce export restraint agreements of the kind he offered the domestic steel industry last month. It also gives him new power to negotiate reductions in trade barriers.

European officials said it was unclear whether the wine and footwear provisions were benign or harmful as much

would depend on the Administration's post-election trade enforcement stance.

The legislation tightens American trade relief laws which allow domestic companies to seek protection from imports made with subsidized parts or materials. This provision also raised strong concerns among European officials who said much would depend on the Administration's definition of subsidies.

European officials were relieved, however, that House and Senate officials were forced to abandon their efforts to pass a bill controlling exports of strategic goods and technology to Soviet bloc countries.

Telecom stock cuts hit suppliers

By Jeremy Warner

Suppliers of telecommunication equipment to British Telecom are being hit by a stock reduction programme introduced by the soon-to-be privatized corporation.

Two suppliers, Trend Communications (part of the quoted Phicom group) and Standard Telephones and Cables, are being particularly affected.

However, BT denied the cutbacks in telecommunication equipment were part of a wider programme of stock reduction ahead of next month's £3 billion stock market flotation.



Sir George aiming for improved efficiency

Sir George Jefferson, the chairman of BT, has introduced a general programme of improved efficiency. A BT spokesman said: "There have been increased pressures on our managers to reduce stock levels. Some managers may have been more vigilant than others."

But he stressed that would be no general programme of order rescheduling among suppliers. He also said there were special factors involved in the telecom stock reductions, including the fact that certain products were becoming obsolete and that BT now faces stiff competition because of liberalization

of the law governing the supply of telecommunications equipment.

Standard Telephones and Cables recently announced 450 redundancies at its telecommunication factory at Brighton, Sussex, because of what it saw as a long-term fall in demand for telephones.

Employees were told at the time that the workload projected for 1985 was not sufficient to maintain the factory's workforce of 900.

The company said yesterday the BT stock reductions were not a factor in its decision.

Phicom hinted at the stock reduction programme in a recent profits statement when Mr Anthony Franks, the chairman, said that despite the successful launch of an enhanced model of the Puma telecommunication machine, "the phasing of deliveries" to customers had this year favoured the results of the group's first half.

New offices for Arthur Guinness

By Judith Huntley, Commercial Property Correspondent

Arthur Guinness & Sons, the brewer, is moving its West End headquarters from 10 Albemarle Street to 39 Portman Square. The company is taking 16,255 sq ft space at Portman Square where it formerly occupied 9,300 sq ft.

The 39 Portman Square office was bought by an investment consortium and extensively refurbished with finance provided by the Chase Manhattan Bank.

Guinness is believed to be paying £18 a sq ft for the space on the second, third and fourth floors. The joint letting agents for Portman Square were Knight Frank & Rutley and Bailey, Posner & Partners.

Debenham Tewson & Chinnocks acted for Guinness and is the joint agent with Henry Butcher on the disposal of 10 Albemarle Street.

STOCK EXCHANGES

FT-SE 100 Index: 1136.5 down 0.1 (high: 1138.9; low: 1135.6)
FT Index: 865.8 up 0.6
FT Cites: 80.70 down 0.06
FT All Share: 534.95 down 0.49
Bargains: 18,884
Datastream USM Leaders Index: 103.39 up 0.84
New York Dow Jones Industrial Average (latest): 1,167.28 down 7.84
Tokyo: Nikkei Dow Jones Index Closed
Hongkong: Hang Seng Index 983.19 up 0.75
Amsterdam: 177.6 up 0.6
Sydney: AO Index 742.3 down 0.3
Frankfurt: Commerzbank Index 1,066.5 down 2.5
Brussels: General Index 161.98 down 0.15
Paris: CAC Index 182.0 up 0.3

CURRENCIES

LONDON CLOSE

Sterling index 76.3 unchanged (range 76.3-76.1)
\$1,230.00 up 10pts
DM 3.8000 up 0.50
FF 11.6700 up 0.0475
Yen 304.75 up 0.50
Dollar index 142.9 up 0.5
DM 3.0970 up 0.0015
NEW YORK LATEST
Sterling \$1.2335
Dollar DM 3.0425
INTERNATIONAL
ECU £0.580423
SDR £0.58944

INTEREST RATES

Domestic rates:
Bank base rates 10%
Finance houses base rate 11
Discount market loans week fixed 10% - 10%
3 month interbank 10% - 10%
Euro-currency rates:
3 month dollar 11% - 11%
3 month DM 5% - 5%
3 month FF 11% - 11%
US rates:
Bank prime rate 12.75 - 12.50
Fed funds 9%
Treasury long bond 102% - 102%
ECGD Fixed Rate Starting Export Finance Scheme IV Average reference rate for interest period September 5 to October 2, 1984, inclusive: 10.904 per cent.

GOLD

London fixed (per ounce):
an \$337.75 pm \$337.75
close \$337.25 - \$338.00 (£275.50 - 276.00)
New York (latest): \$338.70
Kruggerand (per coin):
\$348.00 - \$448.00 (£284.00 - 285.00)
Sovereigns (new):
\$60.00 - \$1.00 (£65.50 - 66.25)
*Excludes VAT

Hongkong Land to expand in China

By Jonathan Clare

The Hongkong Land Company, one of the world's biggest property groups, expects to move into mainland China to manage and possibly develop office properties on behalf of the Communist government there.

"There is a definite opportunity for property development in China but we are not yet at the stage of negotiating," Mr David Davies, Hongkong Land's operating officer, said. Western companies operating in China currently have to take a suite in an hotel because until now there has been no such thing as an office building.

Mr Davies said that the Chinese were about to complete the first office block in Beijing which would offer western companies a total of 600,000 sq ft of space. The rent will be around HK\$40 (£4.10) per sq ft a month, about double that of similar buildings in Hongkong, thus stimulating the interest of Hongkong property developers.

Mr Davies remarked: "Little Hongkong is seen as a fantastic success story. China is saving

Let's pinch a few of their ideas.

The Beijing building would be managed by the Chinese but plans for an office building in Shanghai as a joint venture between mainland and Hongkong interests were also at an advanced stage. Apart from management contracts, Mr Davies believes the Chinese will also be prepared to offer leases to developers.

Leases of 35 years are already available for some developments in the special economic zone just across the border from Hongkong, though the period is too short to attract property developers.

Mr Davies said that there were substantial opportunities for Hongkong Land's Dairy Farm subsidiary food and retail business to expand into mainland China. Retailing was underdeveloped in China, Mr Davies believed commercial opportunities were a long way off but he thought Dairy Farm could export its industrial expertise.

Crocker HQ sold off for \$358m

By Peter Wilson-Smith, Banking Correspondent

Midland Bank's Californian subsidiary Crocker National Corporation is raising \$358m (£293m) cash from the sale of its San Francisco headquarters.

The purchaser is Prudential Insurance Company of America and the deal is expected to be completed by the end of this year. Crocker will remain a tenant in the building, called the Crocker Center.

The deal will come as a relief to both Crocker and its parent. Crocker's balance sheet has been under strain as a result of the heavy losses incurred in the first half of this year.

The sale gives Crocker an after-tax profit of \$185m over book value. Of this \$358m will be offset by restructuring of the balance sheet. The rest of the book profit will be written off over the terms of Crocker's 15 year lease.

Midland Bank's shares closed up 2p yesterday at 354p. Midland owns 57 per cent of Crocker but has put together \$207m for the minority.

Head office moves to waterfront

The Hongkong Land Company is to move its headquarters to four floors of Exchange Square, the prestige HK\$8,200m (£850m) office block it is developing on the last waterfront site in the colony's Central district.

Mr David Davies, Hongkong Land's chief operating officer, confirmed yesterday that the company was moving out of its

60,000 sq ft premises at Alexander House to Hongkong's new, slightly smaller, suite of 50,000 sq ft in the twin-tower complex.

The Exchange Square site is one of the most expensive in Asia and the degree of success the company has in letting the development to banks and multinational companies will be taken as a benchmark of international confidence.

The new midified Hongkong Stock Exchange is also negotiating to buy space in the Exchange Square complex from the government rather than lease it as originally planned. Hongkong Land was sold the site by the Government as part of a deal which included building a new stock exchange trading hall.

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Pressure grows to cancel £20bn Norwegian gas deal

By David Young, Energy Correspondent

The controversial deal under which British Gas plans to buy £20 billion worth of natural gas from the Norwegian sector of the North Sea is being increasingly questioned by oil industry analysts. Its cancellation could lead to up to 600 redundancies on Teesside, where unemployment is already running at 25 per cent.

Meetings between Mr Allick Buchanan-Smith, Energy minister, and his Norwegian opposite number, Mr Kaare Kristiansen, have failed to resolve whether liquids in the Norwegian Sleipner field should be brought to Britain by a Norwegian or a British pipeline.

Treasury opposition to the deal is still strong because of the effect it would have on the balance of payments from 1992 onwards when deliveries start.

Oil industry analysts also point out that the softening of natural gas prices and oil industry predictions revising upwards the amount of gas available in the 1990s from the



Allick Buchanan-Smith snags over North Sea pipeline

fields which were thought to be too expensive to exploit.

The Norwegians have given a warning that cancellation of the contract would mean that the pipeline operated by Norwegian interests from the existing Ekofisk field in the Norwegian sector to Teesside would have to close, with 600 jobs being lost.

British Gas would bring gas from the Sleipner field ashore at St Fergus, north of Aberdeen, but the gas liquids which would be sold by the oil companies involved in the field development, would be piped to Ekofisk and then to Teesside.

The Ekofisk-Teesside line is Norwegian property and the Teesside terminal is technically classed as Norwegian territory for tax purposes. The British Government would receive no taxation revenue from the project, estimated to be worth £200m.

The Department of Energy would prefer the liquids to be brought ashore at Flotta, in the Orkneys, with the revenue going to the Treasury.

Tarmac kills bid talk by selling Blockleys stake

Tarmac is placing with institutional investors its entire 17.45 per cent share stake in Blockleys, the Telford brick maker. The placing puts an end to persistent suggestions that the shareholding would be used as a platform for a full bid.

At the same time, Blockleys is raising £1m after expenses by placing a further 215,000 shares at 50p each to help with the £5.6m cost of a new simulated handmade brick works it is building at Telford. The rest of the money for the project is being borrowed from Lloyds Bank and Investors in Industry. Shareholders will be given the opportunity to participate in the share placing. They will be entitled to subscribe for the same number of shares they would have had in the issue had been by way of a one-for-seven rights issue.

MR RASHID ABDULLAH and Mr Osman Abdullah have turned Evered Holdings round from heavy losses to substantial profits in less than four years. Yesterday, the engineering group turned in a half-time profit of £1.1m against £352,000 and is paying its first interim dividend of 0.7p for five years. Turnover increased from £5.6m to £23.7m.

Tempus, page 23

TIME PRODUCTS, the watch and clock distributor, announced half-year profits up from £31,000 to £75,000 on sales £2.3m lower at £19.7m. Interim dividend 0.25p (nil). Earnings per share 0.15p (0.06p). Tempus, page 23

HIGGS AND HILL, the construction and property

NOTICE OF REDEMPTION

To the Holders of

HILL SAMUEL GROUP PLC

(formerly Hill Samuel Group Limited)

8½% Bonds due 1986, Due November 15, 1986

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the provisions of the Indenture dated as of November 15, 1971 providing for the above Bonds \$640,000 principal amount of said Bonds have been selected for redemption on November 15, 1984, through operation of the mandatory Sinking Fund at the redemption price of 100% of the principal amount thereof, together with accrued interest thereon to said date, as follows:

OUTSTANDING BONDS OF \$1,000 EACH BEARING THE DISTINCTIVE NUMBERS ENDING IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING TWO DIGITS:

20 26 27 28 37 41 45 50 64 67 68

ALSO OUTSTANDING BONDS BEARING THE FOLLOWING NUMBERS:

387 1057 1557 4057 8457 10857 13057 13157 13757

On November 15, 1984, the Bonds designated above will be due and payable in such coin or currency of the United States of America as at the time of payment shall be legal tender for the payment of public and private debts. Said Bonds will be paid, upon presentation and surrender thereof with all coupons appurtenant thereto maturing after the redemption date, at the option of the holder either (a) at the corporate trust office of Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York, 15th Floor, 30 West Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10015, or (b) at the main offices of any of the following: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company of New York in Brussels, Frankfurt am Main, Paris and Zurich; Hill Samuel & Co. Limited in London; Credito Romagnolo S.p.A. in Milan and Rome; Allgemeine Bank Nederland N.V. in Amsterdam; and Kredietbank S.A. Luxembourg in Luxembourg. Payments at the offices referred to in (b) above will be made by check drawn on a bank in New York City or by transfer to a dollar account maintained by the payee with a bank in New York City. Such payment made by transfer to an account maintained with a bank in the United States by the payee may be subject to reporting to the United States Internal Revenue Service (IRS) and to backup withholding of 20% of the gross proceeds if payee not recognized as exempt recipient fail to provide the paying agent with an executed IRS Form W-9 in the case of non-U.S. persons or an executed IRS Form W-9 in the case of U.S. persons.

Coupons due November 15, 1984 should be detached and collected in the usual manner.

On and after November 15, 1984 interest shall cease to accrue on the Bonds herein designated for redemption.

HILL SAMUEL GROUP PLC

By: Morgan Guaranty Trust Company

OF NEW YORK, Trustee

Dated: October 11, 1984

NOTICE

The following Bonds previously called for redemption have not as yet been presented for payment:

743 1614 3610 7181 7191 7210 8725 12842 13010
1091 3033 7175 7183 7236 7214 12829 12878 13014

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Australia	1 4795-1 4820
Bahrain	1 4595-1 4610
Finland	7 8211-7 8216
France	8 835-8 840
Germany	8 835-8 840
Iran	0 366-0 368
Israel	2 9740-2 9820
Japan	2 982-2 985
Malaysia	2 8303-2 8376
New Zealand	2 837-2 840
Saudi Arabia	10 757-10 744
Singapore	2 1297-2 1302
South Africa	

Rates Supplied by Barclays Bank
 LONDON and Exter.

DOLLAR SPOT RATES

England	1 0000-1 0000
France	6 5595-6 5600
Germany	1 8110-1 8115
Australia	0 8110-0 8120
Canada	0 8110-0 8120
Sweden	8 7100-8 7105
Switzerland	2 1295-2 1300
Denmark	11 1295-11 1300
Belgium	36 1295-36 1300
Spain	16 2300-16 2305
Netherlands	20 1295-20 1300
Italy	96 1295-96 1300
Japan	61 2510-61 2515
India	81 2510-81 2515
Hong Kong	78 2500-78 2505
China	112 7500-112 7505
Spain	172 7500-172 7505
Algeria	21 7520-21 7525

EURO-DOLLAR DEPOSITS

3% calcs. 11 1/2% seven days, 10%-10 1/2%
 one month, 10 1/2%-10 3/4% three months, 11 1/2%
 11 1/2% six months, 11 1/2%, 11 1/2%

By Derek Pain

Rothman's International, the tobacco group, fell 5p to 156 after Wood Mackenzie, the broker, downgraded its profit forecast from £175m to £168m.

Wood Mackenzie, and some other brokers, are worried about the intense competition Rothman's is facing in Germany.

Analyst Mr Peter Large said he sees "little speculative value in Rothman's following the share restructure earlier this year" and he is "doubtful about the strategic direction" of the group.

Mr Large prefers BAT Industries "where strong current trading is matched by a clear strategy".

He points out that the share ratings of BAT and Rothman are similar "for companies with markedly contrasting prospects both short and long term". The Large profits prediction for

Government stocks opened on a bright note with advances of up to $\frac{1}{4}$. But at the close

Oils were dull but once again Atlantic Resources had an active session. The shares raced ahead 14p to 124p on continuing talk that the company has at least made the God which has

Hawker Siddeley continued to progress ahead of next week's figures, up 4p to 451p, but De La Rue lost 15p to 705p after their recent run-up.

The ending of the protracted battle for Brooke Bond left speculators scurrying for the next food takeover victim. Rowntree Mackintosh, accompanied by vague talk of a

and accompanied by vague talk of a

pending dawn raid, jumped 14p to 340p: Unigate was 5p stronger at 136p and Tate and Lyle, which started the Brooke

Bond saga, rose 7p to 395p.
Hampton Trust said its 12.9 per cent stake in Dares Estates for £1.13m a transaction which will net it £240,000 which will be used to reduce borrowings. Dares Estates' chairman and managing director have bought 4.5 million of the 4.92 million shares sold by Hampton Trust at 27.1p per share and now own 29.9 per cent at the company between them. Dares rose 3p to 23p.

Ryan Hotels, where Mr. Nazmi Virani has 23.2 per cent of the votes, was unchanged at

American lagers could be the next wave in Britain's beer revolution. Allied-Lyons, up 1p at 157p, is preparing lunch Schlitz US lager, after Budweiser launch this year by Grand Metropolitan. Both groups already have Continental and Australian lagers for sale.

14½p. The company is heading for a "substantial" profits increase this year. Ryan International edged forward to 20p following a major shareholding

Chubb, the security group still confronted with an unwanted but likely to be successful bid.

Equity turnover on Wednesday was valued at £259.512m from 16,609 deals. Gifts bargains were 3,104. Total number

RECENT ISSUES

Admission (Contingent) Ord (110a)	144
Alphamere 5p Ord (95a)	113-3
Applied Holographics 5p Ord (180a)	160
Berkley Group 25p Ord (85a)	126
Blue Arrow 25p Ord (75a)	95-1
Britannia Security 10p Ord (62.5a)	80
Brit Bloodstock Ag 25p Ord (163a)	205
Bush Radio 10p Ord (188a)	73-1
Checkpoint Europe 25p Ord (a)	250
Conway Guild 10p Ord (30a)	77

Camp Fin Serv 5p Ord (85a)	87+2
Compost Hides 5p Ord (4a)	132
DDT Group 5p Ord (135a)	106
Entertainment Prod 5p Ord (158a)	52
Extract Wool 5p Ord (115a)	147+2
Fengbrook Grp 25p Ord (74a)	103-1
Gaint R 25p Ord (50a)	53
Hoggett Bowers 5p Ord (7a)	46
Ind Scot Energy E1 Ord (a)	145

Januar 25p Ord (165)	194
Mayfair & City Prop 25p Ord (170a)	119
Pacific Sales Org 10p Ord (60a)	43
Paul Michael L wear 5p Ord (30a)	31
President Entertainment 10p Ord (10 ^{1/2} a)	15 1/2
Telecomputing 10p Ord (a)	283
Tinsley (Eliza) Grp 5p Ord (55a)	60
Trade Promotion 10p Ord (75a)	77-1

Issue price in parentheses a Unlisted Securities.

- by [REDACTED]

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

1984							1985							1986							1987							1988						
High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	P/E	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	%	P/E
147	119	Abertan	147			8.8	47	220	188	Powder Claver	212			11.1	53	225	248	Barbier	225			12.0	43	225	248	Barbier	225			12.0	43			
112	88	Alcoa	91			1.3	23	224	180	Powder Energy	221			12.4	47	114	82	Reyer & Mann	113			8.4	87	114	82	Reyer & Mann	113			8.4	87			
81	59	Alcoa	81			1.3	23	224	180	Powder Energy	221			12.4	47	114	82	Reyer & Mann	113			8.4	87	114	82	Reyer & Mann	113			8.4	87			
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Authorized Units & Insurance Funds

[illegible]

TEMPUS

Higgs and Hill, smiling through

The British construction industry has been having a tough time recently. Work has been scarce and margins have remained perilously thin. Despite these difficulties, Higgs and Hill has managed to pull through almost unscathed and, by the company's conservative standards, yesterday's interim statement was quite positive.

The company has secured sufficient work for this year and has a much improved order book for next. Margins are still under pressure but Higgs and Hill has not made the mistake of chasing turnover at the expense of profit.

This policy contributed to the increase in pretax profits in the first half from £2.8m to £3.2m. The performance was also helped by solid results from the house building company. The decision to move into this area is now paying dividends.

Higgs and Hill is not a volume housebuilder. Its average price is about £60,000, which reduces its exposure to the problems in the sector. Its efforts are also concentrated in the South of England which has proved to be recession-resistant.

With the property division also showing signs of life, the prospects for the group remain encouraging. Profits of more than £7m are in sight in the full year and with the share price unchanged yesterday at 273p, the rating is, if anything, on the low side. A strong balance sheet linked with both profits and dividends growth make Higgs and Hill a firm hold and might also attract buyers who prepared to risk the problems of the sector.

Evered Holdings
Mr Raschid Abdullah, who claims indirect descent from the prophet Muhammad, has fulfilled predictions that he and Mr Osman Abdullah would succeed in turning Evered from a sleepy West Midlands metal basher into a rapidly-expanding engineering conglomerate.

When the Abdullahs moved into Evered three-and-a-half years ago, it was heavily in the red. Yesterday it turned in trebled half-time profits of £1.1m and is paying the first real dividend for five years. Growth should continue just

as fast in the second half and by the middle of next year Evered expects to have realized well over £2m from what are delicately called the "surplus assets" of Brockhouse. Brockhouse was acquired last April in competition against Mr Swraj Paul's Caparo Industries.

Seven of the Brockhouse businesses have been closed or sold, raising £750,000 while decentralization has cut head office costs by about £1m to £700,000. Brockhouse is now profitable for the first time in three years.

The Abdullahs also have high hopes of Hawkins and Tipson, the ropemaker acquired a year ago, particularly for its high technology Kevlar-based ropes which have a lot of North Sea exploration potential.

Where next? Evered did look at Francis Industries which ultimately fell to Suter. Less than 50 per cent of sales are now generated in the West Midlands and the next acquisition is likely to be more of a precious engineer than an old-fashioned heavy metal basher.

Time Products
The patient is up walking about, but convalescence will take time. That was yesterday's message for shareholders in Time Products, the watch and clock distributor.

In the first half year, Hongkong trading profits halved to little over £1m, and finance costs wiped out all but £197,000 of that. Conversely, trading losses in Britain were halved to £233,000 and financial income reduced that to £122,000. The result is a net profit of £75,000, compared with a severely depressed £31,000 at this time last year and £2.6m for the year as a whole.

As ever, this year's outcome is heavily dependent on Christmas trade, which accounts for a third of turnover. Meanwhile, a token 0.25p interim dividend is being paid, with the possibility of a slightly more substantial final. Next month, the board is being bolstered with two strong non-executives, including Mr Richard Lagdon as chairman. The shares at 27p may just be at floor level.

Evered Holdings plc
INTERIM REPORT
Half Year to 30th June 1984
The unaudited results of the Evered Group, prepared under the historical cost convention, for the first six months of the financial year ending 31st December 1984, together with comparative figures are summarised below:

	1984 Half Year £'000	1983 Half Year £'000	1983 Full Year £'000
Sales	23,008	5,597	12,837
Operating profit	1,544	407	810
Interest payable (net)	454	55	201
Profit before taxation	1,090	352	609
Taxation	281	15	25
Profit before extraordinary items	809	337	584
Extraordinary items	—	—	53
Profit for the period	809	337	531
Preference Dividend	2	—	14
Ordinary Dividend	171	—	44
Retained profit for the period	636	337	473
Earnings per ordinary share	5.8p	3.9p	6.5p

* PRE-TAX PROFIT TREBLED
* EARNINGS PER SHARE UP 49%
* INTERIM DIVIDEND OF 0.7p PER SHARE — FIRST SINCE 1979
* BOARD LOOK TO THE FUTURE WITH CONFIDENCE

Yorke House,
38/42, Chertsey Street,
Guildford, Surrey, GU1 4HD.
Raschid M. Abdullah
Chairman
10th October 1984
Earnings per ordinary share are based on a weighted average of 13,875,950 ordinary shares in issue during the period.
The profit and loss account above for the year ended 31st December 1983 is an extract from the full accounts on which the report of the auditors is unqualified. The accounts have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY PRICES
Marked in £'s per tonne unless stated, prices in US \$ per metric tonne.

Aluminium	2378-2379
Copper	2378-2379
Gold	2378-2379
Iron ore	2378-2379
Lead	2378-2379
Nickel	2378-2379
Platinum	2378-2379
Silver	2378-2379
Steel	2378-2379
Timber	2378-2379
Wool	2378-2379
Zinc	2378-2379

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE
Official turnover figures.
Prices in pounds per tonne unless stated.
After 10.30 a.m. prices may vary.

Aluminium	104.50-105.00
Copper	104.50-105.00
Gold	104.50-105.00
Iron ore	104.50-105.00
Lead	104.50-105.00
Nickel	104.50-105.00
Platinum	104.50-105.00
Silver	104.50-105.00
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COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

Investors 'need better research'

By Judith Huntley

The property world is sadly lacking in the kind of research and performance measures so readily available to investors in, say, stocks and shares. And the research which is available is limited and sketchy.

There is no denying that property research has improved by leaps and bounds in the last decade but it still has not reached the level of sophistication which is taken for granted by investors in other areas.

The research reports put out some of the leading names in chartered surveying came under attack from Mr Michael Baker, of Baker, Harris Saunders, last week when he described them as "glossy public relations exercises".

Mr Baker, who was speaking at the annual conference of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, questioned why research into the activities and performance of property companies is done by stockbrokers and not by chartered surveyors.

The stockbrokers have had well established and large research departments for some time with the sector analysts among the best paid staff. But the emergence of research departments in firms of chartered surveyors is relatively new and if profits margins are squeezed, questions are soon asked about their necessity.

Mr Baker argues that it is about time investment managers of the large pension funds have the confidence to take on board detailed research from firms of surveyors linked with

stockbrokers. At the moment, only Liang & Cruickshank with St Quintin produces a joint report on the property market.

In the past, institutional clients have taken the advice of their chartered surveyors on where and when to invest but, Mr Baker says, they are beginning to question basic investment criteria.

The view was echoed by Mr Hugh Jenkins, director general of superannuation investment for the National Coal Board Pension Fund, when he addressed the RICS conference.

He believes that the research work now being done by leading firms should be expanded and says the profession has a long way to go before chartered surveyors are taken seriously in

terms of making strategic investment decisions. Mr Jenkins agrees that great progress has been made in the kind of one-off and periodical property research now available compared with the dearth of such information in the property crash days of 1973/4.

He said that at that time there was a lack of adequate data in just about every field of property on which to base judgments on investments. There were repeated pleas for the profession to originate and publish such research. The large financial institutions had the resources to set up research departments but only could hope to deal with only a limited amount of material.

Mr Jenkins questioned whether the available research

is being used by chartered surveyors, and he singled out the apparent lack of discrimination in the yields being paid for High Street shops.

Property investment and development should be subject to intensive market research like any other product, Mr Jenkins argued.

One of the most sensitive areas for research is the development of performance measures.

While it is true the concept of measuring total return on institutional portfolios came in around 1975, it is still not possible to compare the performance of one fund against another.

There is no common basis for obtaining such information, and indeed the pension funds and insurance companies remain remarkably coy about their property transactions, let

alone the performance of their fund managers.

But the indications are that more of those with property assets will be prepared to commission specific research, for which they will have to pay a high price, to better evaluate use of assets and the performance of individual investments.

But there is also a belief that the professions themselves will have to bear more of the costs of research. The large firms already carry this burden but in the hope that it will lead to an increase in market share, or at least maintain the status quo.

Once the predicted boom in financial "supermarkets" happens, chartered surveyors may find themselves under growing pressure to come up with the kind of research methods used in other investment markets.

More and more chartered surveyors could find themselves lured to these new conglomerates or firms could well move closer to the brokers' analysts as their clients demand a comprehensive service.

But the indications are already there that the specialist firm has an important part to play in property development and investment.

When the letting market is difficult, developers and funds are demanding keener service from the chartered surveyor.

The message must be for better research, better advice and better service. It was certainly the message that came over loud and clear from the profession itself at the annual conference.

Australia lures British developers

The prospect of real growth in the Australian property market over the next two years is spurring British developers on and the signs are that their investment portfolios are growing through development refurbishment.

Capital & Counties could double its investment portfolio in a £100m programme. Hammerson, the company with the largest exposure in the Australian market, is expected to start on its 300,000 sq ft office

development in Brisbane soon and Slough Estates is planning a 640,000 sq ft further phase at its Silverwater industrial estate, near Sydney.

This is despite the efforts of the Foreign Investment Review Board to deter foreign developers.

The bullish view of the Australian property market comes from Phillips & Drew, the stockbroker.

Phillips & Drew is recommending investors to be

overweight in both Hammerson and MEPC.

The broker predicts that there will be a Hammerson quotation in Australia after the completion of the purchase in 1985 of the minority interests held by Hammerson's second largest shareholder, the Australian Mutual Provident Society.

Phillips & Drew sees good rental growth prospects in MEPC's office portfolio in an future developments through ASC Trust.

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At Gold Fields construction aggregates support recovery

From the Statement by Rudolph Agnew, Chairman
● Gold remains the Group's biggest source of earnings.

● ARC for the first time made the largest single profit contribution of any Group company.

● Profit before tax at £105 million was up by 17 per cent and earnings per share at 38.2 pence were 25 per cent higher.

● The dividend remains unchanged at a total of 24.5 pence per share in order to raise dividend cover towards a more satisfactory level.

● We continue to be very active in exploration, with Group expenditure amounting to nearly £50 million.

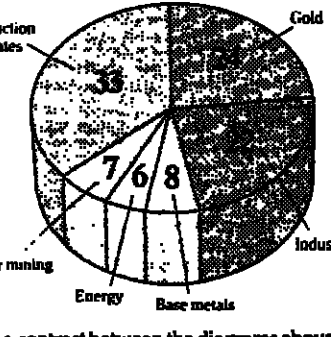
● New mines will add over ten tonnes a year of additional gold production.

● We have the financial strength to pursue a long-term strategy because we include in our portfolio some of the very best low cost producers of gold, tin, coal and construction aggregates in the world.

● We continue to seek out opportunities for new investments in existing product lines and in connected areas of activity.

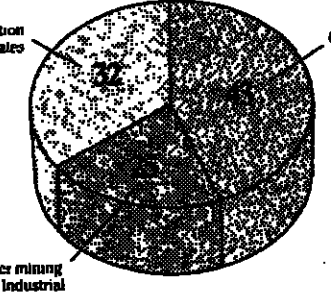
Beneficial Interest in Group Products
expressed as a percentage

Value of sales £1.4 billion



The contrast between the diagrams above and below illustrates the importance of profit margins, particularly in relation to gold.

Profit Contribution £171 million
(before central charges and exploration)



Key Results from the Accounts

1984 1983 %

£ Million

Beneficial interest in Group sales	1,337	1,219	10
Profit before tax	105	90	17
Profit attributable to shareholders	72	57	26

Pence per share

MOTOR RACING: CHANGES IN FORMULA ONE REGULATIONS

FISA dilutes grand prix formula

By John Blunden

Far-reaching changes to Formula One racing regulations, to be introduced progressively over the next four seasons, were announced in Paris yesterday by Yvon Lebon, the secretary-general of FISA, the sport's governing body. The changes, which include a reduction in engine capacity, fuel capacity and aerodynamic downforce, are intended to contain speeds and have received the unanimous backing of the Formula One Commission, comprising representatives of the race organizers, the car constructors, the sponsors and FISA.

The current engine rules, allowing a displacement of three litres, or 1.5 litres with a supercharger or turbocharger, remain in force for 1985, but in 1986 three-litre engines will be excluded. This is little more than a tidying-up of the regulations, in so far as every team will be using 1.5-litre turbo charged engines next season. For 1988, however, the maximum engine capacity is to

be reduced from 1.5 to 1.2 litres. The progressive lowering of the fuel capacity amends a decision taken last July to retain the current limit of 220 litres for a further three years. This limit will now only apply next year, and will be reduced to 195 litres for 1986 and 1987. When the 1.2-litre engine limit is introduced in 1988, the maximum amount of fuel allowed on board will fall to 180 litres.

Regulations to come into force next season include a new 102 octane fuel rating, and the banning of supercooled fuel-injection systems which have been widely used during the current season as a means of "compressing" the fuel to achieve greater mileage. There is also to be a ban on the use of liquids or materials to make cars heavier in order to meet the minimum weight requirement. The use of this form of ballast by the Tyrrell team this year was one of the issues challenged prior to the team's controversial exclusion from the current world championship.

An attempt is being made to reduce cornering speeds next season by the suppression of "winglets". These are small supplementary wings which have appeared increasingly during the current season as an integral part of cars' rear wings and are estimated to have increased aerodynamics by up to 25 per cent.

Driver safety has also been tackled, following a number of leg injuries sustained during the past few months. All constructors will be required to submit the forward portion of their chassis and their drivers' survival cells for crash testing to ensure that these structures meet newly defined safety requirements.

Discussions will also take place next season on finding alternative forms of qualifying for starting grid positions, as the "single fastest lap" method adopted to date can pose unacceptable hazards when drivers on their final-out qualifying lap are obstructed by slow-moving cars. If qualification is

to be based on an aggregate of several consecutive lap times, as some teams seem to favour, tyre companies will be called upon to produce more durable qualifying tyres in place of their "one-lap specials".

Paris (Reuters) - Eleven drivers gain world championship points following the redistribution by FISA after the disqualification of the Tyrrell team over fuel irregularities at Detroit earlier this season.

revised world championship standings: 1. Alain Prost (France) 54; 2. Niki Lauda (Austria) 48; 3. Gilles Villeneuve (Canada) 47; 4. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) 46; 5. Keke Rosberg (Finland) 45; 6. Didier Pironi (France) 44; 7. Elio de Angelis (Italy) 43; 8. René Arnoux (France) 42; 9. Andrea de Cesaris (Italy) 41; 10. John Watson (Scotland) 40; 11. Patrick Tambay (France) 39; 12. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) 38; 13. Niki Lauda (Austria) 37; 14. Gilles Villeneuve (Canada) 36; 15. Elio de Angelis (Italy) 35; 16. René Arnoux (France) 34; 17. Didier Pironi (France) 33; 18. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) 32; 19. Keke Rosberg (Finland) 31; 20. Gilles Villeneuve (Canada) 30; 21. Elio de Angelis (Italy) 29; 22. René Arnoux (France) 28; 23. Didier Pironi (France) 27; 24. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) 26; 25. Keke Rosberg (Finland) 25; 26. Gilles Villeneuve (Canada) 24; 27. Elio de Angelis (Italy) 23; 28. René Arnoux (France) 22; 29. Didier Pironi (France) 21; 30. Nelson Piquet (Brazil) 20; 31. 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TENNIS



Miss Croft and Miss Brown: Wightman Cup players

Britain will be served by the teenage set

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Two teenagers are in Britain's team to play the United States in the annual Wightman Cup, now sponsored by Nabisco, at the Albert Hall from November 1 to 3. They are Amanda Croft, aged 19, and Annabel Brown, aged 18. Miss Brown played for Britain last July in the world team championship for the Federation Cup and Miss Croft deputized for Miss Hobbs, who was ill, in one of last year's Wightman Cup doubles.

Jo Durie and Anne Hobbs will represent the main thrust of Britain's challenge, each playing singles. They also form Britain's strongest doubles team. One of the teenagers will probably play the third singles and at least one (most likely Miss Brown) will also play the second string's doubles possibly with Virginia Wade, the captain. Sue Mappin, the team manager, said yesterday: "It has been a pleasant change to have a wide choice for selection with several girls vying for positions".

Sue Baker, who has played seven Wightman Cup doubles with Miss Wade, has lost her

WIGHTMAN CUP TEAM: A. Brown, A. Croft, J. Durie, A. Hobbs and V. Wade.

BADMINTON

Miss Troke has her best chance to nail Miss Lie

By Richard Eaton

The 1984 Masters, which begins today with a new sponsor, British Airways, and a new venue, the Mountbatten Centre in Portsmouth, always contains a nuance of novelty. Five years ago at the Albert Hall it was the grand new event that ushered in open badminton—the first professional tournament of a circuit that has since developed encouragingly into a world-wide international Grand Prix.

Four years ago a London University student named Martin Dew was summoned from his books as last-minute substitute, and a story stranger than fiction became men's doubles champion with Mike Tredgett before going on to form a world-class partnership for England.

Last year Helen Troke became England's first singles finalist and this year the 20-year-old European and Commonwealth champion from Southampton hopes for another first—a victory over Ivana Lila, the Indonesian, who has been steadily developing a reputation as Miss Troke's bogey player.

Last month Miss Lie, pert and persistent, denied Miss Troke the place in the World Cup semi-finals she had been selected to reach. That, though, was in Miss Lie's home city of Järnkorta, where degrees and decidedly create cauldrons of heat and noise.

Now just a few miles down the road from her own home city, England's No 1 will more than welcome the return of a player who has been selected to reach the semi-finals.

Lord Justice O'Connor and Lord Justice May.

Since this country was a member of the European Community there was a public interest in ensuring that the Commission was not frustrated in the duty of enforcing compliance with articles 85 and 86 of the EEC Treaty. The Court of Appeal held that the public interest was sufficiently strong to override the right of a litigant to have an action in a defamation action for damages for libel.

The court in reserved judgments. Lord Justice May dissenting, dismissed an appeal by plaintiffs, Hasselblad (GB) Ltd, from Mr Justice O'Connor's judgment of March 1, 1984 for the defendant, Mr Kenneth Orlinson, on the claim for damages for alleged libel in a letter sent by the defendant to the Commission of the European Communities complaining that an

alleged refusal to carry out the servicing of an expensive camera was a breach of European Community law.

On July 2 (The Times, July 9) the court had dismissed an appeal by the plaintiffs from an order of Mr Justice O'Connor.

Appeals, that a notice of appeal be served upon the European Commission under Order 59, rule 8 of the Rules of the Supreme Court although the Commission was not a party to the proceedings before Mr Justice O'Connor.

Leave to appeal to the House of Lords was granted.

Mr Michael Burton, QC, Mr Richard Slowe and Mr Geoffrey Mot for the plaintiffs.

Mr Christopher Carr, QC, and Mr Richard Behar for the defendant.

Mr Alan Tyrrell, QC, and Mr Ian Carson for the Commission.

The MASTER OF THE ROLLS said that Hasselblad (GB) Ltd were the sole United Kingdom distributors of Hasselblad cameras which were based in Sweden. Camera Care Ltd, a Belfast company, had had a sub-distributorship, which was terminated by Hasselblad in 1980.

In July 1979 Camera Care complained to the Commission of the European Communities that Hasselblad was carrying on their business in breach of article 85 of the EEC Treaty. In 1980 the Commission began proceedings against Hasselblad in the course of which Camera Care sent to the Commission a letter dated February 16, 1981, signed by the defendant, alleging that a Hasselblad camera which he had brought had developed a fault which Hasselblad

had refused to repair on the ground that it had been purchased from an unauthorised dealer.

The Commission sent a copy of the letter to Hasselblad inviting their comments which replied that the allegations were unfounded and that the defendant was to be considered as the authority under which the Commission acted. It was conceded that it recognized by the law of this country.

Its general duties were laid down by article 155. In relation to competition and articles 85 and 86, article 89 required it to investigate suspected infringements and to take appropriate measures to bring them to an end.

On occasions of the Commission enforcement under article 192 were known as "Community judgments" and were enforceable by the High Court under Order 71.

His Lordship considered the decision adopted by the Commission and said that the fact that the decision was reached by Commissioners, who had not attended the hearing, on advice from representatives of the European Community nations, who were not directly concerned, seemed to show that the Commission was acting in a manner which was dissimilar to that of either civil or common law courts of justice and that its activities were dissimilar to such courts.

That was not a criticism of the Commission and its procedures, but an acceptance that the Commission and its procedures fell into a different category, being administrative rather than judicial or quasi-judicial.

Franco's fall puts him out for a week

John Franco was knocked out in fall at Cheltenham yesterday and has been automatically barred from riding for the next seven days. Don Giovanni, 7-4 on to complete a treble and give Franco his first second winner of the season, fell at the second fence in the Nailsworth Handicap Chase.

Franco lay unconscious while the field covered nearly a circuit of the course. He was able to walk to the ambulance, but later he did not remember a thing about it. I just feel stiff now," Franco's misfortune enabled John Burke, on Cheltenham, to enjoy a winning ride on his first day back after a five-week absence following a broken collarbone at Southwell.

Burke, riding his first winner of the season, produced the 12-1 shot with perfect timing coming to the last to beat Dennis Auburn by four lengths. He told the winning owner-trainer, Bill Taylor, a Worcester City merchant, that he was the best jockey he has ever sat on — quite a tribute from a jockey who has won both the Cheltenham Gold Cup and the Grand National.

Burke had expected Glembling Prince to give him a winning return in the Churchdown Handicap Chase but the 11-4 favourite, who has a history of back problems, was travelling and jumping badly in the race. The race went to the top weight, Half Free, who came from well off the pace in a very fast race to peg back Foggy Bury on the flat.

John Jenkins has proved a highly profitable trainer to follow in the opening months of the National Hunt season and at Cheltenham today Kyote can keep his supporters in a happy frame of mind by winning the Studd Challenge Cup.

Three victories at Newton Abbot already this season have pointed to the overall well-being of this six-year-old, particularly his latest effort, which indicated that he has improved since the spring.

He has a difficult task today against the likes of Iden Green, Western Ruler, Lucifer and Good, but the way that he gave North Yard, Tudor Rose, Spencer Lane and The Guinea Man more than a stone and a thrashing in the West Country last month suggested that he could easily be equal to it, especially as his rivals may not yet be cherry-ripe.

Iden Green, who won his last five races last season, has done plenty of ground work in readiness for his first race of the autumn, but I doubt his ability to concede 11lb to my naps.

This occasion I regard as Good, from Neville Crump's famous Middleham yard, as the greater danger, especially as he should be in sharper form for his recent race at Carlisle.

No matter how far Good fares, Captain Crump's journey from North Yorkshire to Gloucestershire should not be in vain as he appears to have an excellent chance of winning the Studd Challenge Cup.

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

to have an excellent chance of winning the Studd Challenge Cup. Chase with Imperial Black, who has already jumped round Cheltenham successfully.

Morway Boy, runner-up in the Cambridgehire last Saturday, makes a swift reappearance in the Hongkong Marlboro Cup at York. Steve Norton would not be bringing Mariboro back again, however, unless he considered the four-year-old had an outstanding chance of picking up this handsome consolation prize.

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Dayna, a full sister to that good horse, Dalsan, and herself the winner of the 1981 Yorkshire Wines Cup, should remain unbeaten by winning the Hongkong Stakes, where her principal rival is likely to be Henry Cecil's newcomer, Velvet.

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Progressive Kyoto to make most of fitness advantage

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

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The ideal candidate will be self-motivated and organised, with shorthand and word processing skills.

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Salary will not be a limiting factor.

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Experienced Secretary required for an initial period of up to 12 months working for a busy Director in our City Office. A fast rate telephone manner, the ability to cope with people at all levels, initiative and good organisational skills are essential. Good shorthand, audio and typing speeds are required, wordplex experience essential.

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CITY BANK £9,250 + MORT

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EURO MP PA/SECRETARY

The ideal candidate for this post will be a graduate with an interest in politics, experience of research and ability to deal with correspondence. Excellent shorthand/typing and willingness to work for Conservative cause in Europe essential. Top salary payable for the right applicant. Please write with full CV to:
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Hours 2 p.m. - 7/7.30 p.m.
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TO APPLY SEND FULL DETAILS OF EXPERIENCE TO:
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01-631 9222

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We require a Secretary to be the lynchpin of our newest department, which requires a confident, conscientious woman with a variety of people throughout the UK and Europe. Some knowledge of a language would be helpful. We need good shorthand typing, word processing training will be given coupled with a fair for administration. Salary up to £8,500 p.a.

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WANDSWORTH HIGH ST. West End Salary

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£10,500 including bonus

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Sec. P.A. to work for Senior Partner with person who is familiar with Stockbroking/Finance, who does not mind working long hours in return for fascinating and exciting job.

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Part time interviewers for the London Office and CV to Mrs Harrington, 120 New Bond St, W1

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EURO MP PA/SECRETARY

The ideal candidate for this post will be a graduate with an interest in politics, experience of research and ability to deal with correspondence. Excellent shorthand/typing and willingness to work for Conservative cause in Europe essential. Top salary payable for the right applicant. Please write with full CV to:
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General Appointments

Director General

British Red Cross Society

The charitable work of the Red Cross is undertaken within the United Kingdom and internationally in war and in peace, and includes training and services to assist with emergencies in the lives of individuals and communities, as well as a range of related activities.

The management team of the National Headquarters in London is headed by the Director General, who is responsible to the Council for the implementation of agreed policies so as to achieve the objectives of the British Red Cross Society. The full-time staff of 150 in London work closely with the UK branches which co-ordinate the work of over 75,000 adult volunteers, and with many other organisations at home and overseas.

PA

PA Personnel Services

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WORKS ENGINEER

for

Modern Semi Automatic Light Alloy Foundry

To have overall responsibility for the procurement, installation, commissioning and maintenance of all plant and factory/site services. Relevant experience of installing and operating a planned maintenance system is an essential requirement. Knowledge of condition monitoring applied to predictive maintenance would be an advantage. The appointee will also have responsibility for health and safety compliance.

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The Company will offer a very competitive salary and conditions of employment, with assistance given for removal to the Worcester area.

Written applications, in strictest confidence, to:

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MID 20s

- with
Financial experience?

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The unit is in its infancy, therefore this is an excellent opportunity for someone capable of creative thinking to inject their own ideas into work which is still in the very earliest stages of development.

You should be in your mid-20s with, ideally, a degree level of education - Economics, Statistics or similar. You will have experience of working in a financial environment together with an appreciation of the Securities Industry. Numeracy and good communication skills, particularly written, are essential.

The starting salary will be around £2000 p.a. depending upon experience, and the benefits package includes a fully-paid season ticket, non-contributory pension scheme and lunches.

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The Stock Exchange

MARKETING DIRECTOR

£20,000 +

An American based company, with a U.K. subsidiary in the South of England, seeks an energetic person to market education and training services and assume responsibility for an increase in business development in U.K./Europe and Middle East.

You will need to prove a successful sales record and the ability to combine entrepreneurial flair with sound business acumen. In addition, experience in the following areas is advantageous: Marketing Education Services; Management of Projects; Management Consulting; Administration & Finance Operation; Proposal Design/Bid Pricing & Contract Negotiation.

This position requires strong communication skills with proven success in international enterprise. A degree or equivalent preferred. Benefits will include a company car and medical coverage.

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CLINIQUE

are seeking an
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Large prestigious West End store
We require a self-motivated business minded person who is exceptionally well groomed with previous management and sales experience.
Major objectives include: the successful management of a well trained team to achieve sales targets, maintaining an efficient stock control system, implementing promotional activity and above all ensuring a polite efficient service to the customer.
If you have the enthusiasm, the confidence in your own abilities and feel you can really contribute to the success of Clinique, please contact:

Fiona Yacko-Draper, Personnel Co-ordinator
Clinique Laboratories Limited
54 Grosvenor Street, London W1X 9FF
Telephone: 01-499 9385

Corporate Finance Worldwide Engineering and Transportation £14,000

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Top-level exposure
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Group Accountant
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This major British group has major investments in profitable enterprises in 5 continents. As a key member of a centrally based team, this recently qualified Chartered Accountant will support the Managing Director on all aspects of financial reporting and control, provide advice to subsidiaries and assist the central treasury function. Call Adam Crozier BA - Ref: 8688

Our client is a highly progressive international organisation, providing services and products to the chemicals industry. Due to their continual growth, this role has arisen, based in continental Europe, for a top flight ACMA, mid 20's. You will be involved in increasing the efficiency of the decision-making process by means of improving the financial and management reporting systems. Call Jennifer Staddon BSc - Ref: 8627

Exceptional opportunity to become immediately involved at the sharp end of a successful and diverse group. The post carries responsibility for group budgets and four year plans and will provide a first-class starting point for a long term career at group or operating level. Candidates should be graduate qualified accountants in their late 20's with a strong commercial flair. Call Jane Woodward BA - Ref: 8683

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- Resident Engineer - with 15 years experience minimum.
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Minimum qualification BSc or equivalent, with experience in the field of design or construction of water and sewerage treatment plant.

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Stoke-on-Trent
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The applicant must be experienced in fashion and aged between 25 to 35 years, with the ability to expand the RODIER Franchising Shop network. Training will be given.

- ★ HIGH BASIC SALARY
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- ★ COMPANY CAR
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The Manager,
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Managing Director Designate

Graphics Arts Industry

Five Figure Financial Package - Northern Based

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The person will already be working in a similarly related field of business, and be familiar with the activities of manufacturing and distributing bar code film masters. A graphic arts preparatory background with five years experience would be satisfactory. He or she must be a self-starter, used to working under pressure and have a proven track record of successful management in sales and marketing.

The person will be expected to take full responsibility for the success of the business, and therefore should be familiar with the activities of managing a new company. The position offered is a senior one and the successful applicant will be offered a financial package of the kind expected from an international company.

Interviews will be held later this month in London and Leeds. Written applications only will be accepted, and be marked 311 and addressed to:
symbology inc.
LOWFIELDS WAY, LEEDS LS12 6HQ. symbology



CAR SALES EXECUTIVE

Cooper St James, the latest addition to the vigorous and expanding Cooper Group - Europe's leading BMW dealership is looking for an additional Sales Executive.

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Presentable, intelligent and probably under 35, you will have a successful record of professional selling - not necessarily motor trade - and will be accustomed to achieving targets.

Cooper St James are located in the prestigious area of Central London. Excellent salary, PPP, Pension and a BMW car are part of the package from a Group dedicated to the training and development of its staff.

If you feel you are the right person for the excellent career prospects we offer please phone us now for an application form.

Ask for Miss Kiddi Pole on 01-629 6699

Cooper St James
54 St James's St SW1
629 6699.



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£15,000+

Our client, a leading City Merchant Bank, seeks a self-motivated Administration Manager, age 35-45, to re-organise and run a very pressurised central department. Your role will be one of unobtrusive and sensitive management and will cover a wide range of administrative functions. These will include accounts control, preparation and monitoring of budgets and the initiation and maintenance of computerised research and filing systems. The effective day to day running of the department will also include some personnel duties. An extensive knowledge of computerised systems (IBM) is essential as is book keeping to T.B. and supervisory experience of secretarial staff, combined with a background in banking or stockbroking. You should have a mature approach with the ability to liaise effectively with both junior staff and senior management. A competitive benefit package will be offered, including a mortgage subsidy, non-contributory pension and 28 days holiday. Please ring

588 3535
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£17,000-£20,000 plus car

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Your experience to date should include:
- excellent fact-finding and analysis skills
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- the ability to write reports and proposals
- practical experience of project management
- a strong understanding of business systems and investment
It is a privilege to work with the Allied Hambro Group, and you will be working on business systems and investment projects and will be involved in the design, development and implementation of systems, and will be responsible for the training of staff in either systems or investment.

An advertisement can't say everything about us, so send for our recruitment booklet and an application form now. Write to Karen Philbin at Hambro Life Assurance plc, Allied Hambro Centre, Swindon SN1 1EL, or phone her on (0793) 27812 (24 hour answerphone).

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FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT

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THIS AD COULD CHANGE YOUR LIFE

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Works Management, Britain's leading journal for those in day-to-day charge of manufacturing companies, needs an outstanding engineer to join its editorial team. Applicants need not be experienced writers, but should have hands-on experience of the people problems and technical problems involved in managing a successful factory.

The job entails: visiting a wide range of companies whose managers have taken a lead in applying new ideas; persuading their managements to co-operate in publishing their success; and reporting on new techniques and practical ideas which will be helpful to other managers.

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This important work will be based at the company's headquarters at Franks Hall, a splendidly modernised Elizabethan manor house with an estate of 85 acres in Kent. You will enjoy all the fringe benefits associated with a young, unusually successful company.

Even if you have never thought of entering industrial communications or publishing, take advantage of this unusual chance to explore what is at least a major career accelerator and at best an enormously creative and satisfying career in itself.

Write in the first instance to:

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Peter Chambers
Works Management
Findlay Publications Ltd
Franks Hall
Horton Kirby, Kent DA4 9LL



Sales Representatives

5 figure salary + bonus

Sales Trainees

circa 7K + bonus

DOW CONSTRUCTION PRODUCT GROUP, based in Birmingham, is part of the Dow Chemical Company Limited. They are market leaders in the manufacture and marketing of a wide range of insulation products, which are sold via specialists in the construction industry.

Due to expansion they require two Sales Representatives (based in the North and South) with proven architectural sales experience. You should be of sound educational background, ideally to graduate level, M/F and aged between 25 and 35 years old.

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Both positions are offered with a prestige company car of Gita status, pension and full benefits associated with working for a blue chip organisation. The company also offers the opportunity to take on increasing responsibility as part of a personal development programme.

If you feel you have what it takes to develop your skills within a progressive company, please write enclosing full personal and career details or telephone: David Haddy (Ref DA/133), Resource Management International, Stancroft House, 16 Hill Avenue, Amersham, Bucks HP6 5BP. Telephone: 02945 28851

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located near Frankfurt, West Germany, is looking for

Senior Programmers

to work with one of our key accounts in the Frankfurt area.

Applicants must have experience in Sperry Univac 1100 Series and Fortran Knowledge of High Volume - TIP (HVT) - Assembler would be helpful.

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Today's television and radio programmes

Summaries by Peter Daville and Peter Daville

BBC 1

6.00 *Casualty* AM.
6.30 *Breakfast Time* with Frank Bough and Selina Scott. News from Debbie Rix at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.50; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; medical advice and cookery hints between 8.30 and 8.50 plus Selina Scott's report from the Hebrides.

9.50 *Under the Sea*. Tom Salmon narrates this documentary about the sea cloud, a four-masted barge, originally a wedding present for the heiress Marjorie Hutton (r).

9.15 *Conservative Party Conference 1984*. The third morning's debates 10.30 *Play School*, presented by Ian Lauchlin. 10.50 *Conservative Party Conference 1984*. Further coverage of the morning's debates.

12.30 *News After Noon* with Richard Whitmore and Moira Stuart. The evening's prospects come from Ian McCaskill. 12.57 *Regional News* (London and SE only). Financial report followed by news headlines with subtitles.

1.00 *People Mill* at One with guests Bob Hope and singing group *Star Beat*. 1.45 *Fingerbobs*. A See-Saw programme for the very young (r).

2.00 *Village School*. The third and final programme in the series about how Erington Village Primary School was saved from closure.

2.30 *Conservative Party Conference 1984*. The afternoon's debates 3.48 *Regional News* (non-London). 3.50 *Play School*, presented by Wayne Jackson. 4.10 *Benjamin*. A four-part series presented by Howard Steptoe. 4.30 *Goatella*. 4.50 *John Craven's Newsround*.

5.00 *Blue Peter* with Simon Groon on the Greenwith Meridian. 5.25 *Henry's Cat*. 5.30 *Grange Hill*. Episode six (r) (Ceefax). 5.58 *Weather*.

6.00 *News* with Sue Lawley and Nicholas Wright.

6.15 *London Plus*. 6.55 *Tomorrow's World*, includes a report on a new way to save London's sewers from collapse.

7.20 *The Top of the Pops* introduced by Mike Read and Tommy Vance.

8.00 *The Magnificent Evans*. The final episode of the comedy series and Plantagenet Evans decides to marry an earnest woman of Rachel by proposing marriage — a proposal that is readily accepted. But there is a small slip between betrothal and altar (Ceefax).

8.30 *Checkmate* presented by Roger Cook, the consumer's champion.

9.00 *News* with John Humphrys. 9.25 *Morgan's Boy*. Part one of a new eight-part drama about the relationship between an out-of-work teenager and his hill-farmer uncle with whom he goes to live. Starring Gary Thomas and Marilyn Hesford (Ceefax). (see Choice).

10.20 *Heart of the Matter*. David Jessel travels with an ambulance team as it tends to the victims of picket line violence in the south Yorkshire area and also talks to the local clergy about the way they treat the violence.

TV-am

6.25 *Good Morning Britain*, presented by Jayne Irving and Nick Owen. News with Gordon Hargrove at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00 and 8.30 with headlines on the quarter hours and at 8.50; sport at 8.40 and 7.40; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.45, 7.15, 7.45 and 8.15; programme choice at 8.55; a review of the morning newspapers at 7.18 and 8.18; medical advice and cookery hints between 8.30 and 8.50 plus Selina Scott's report from the Hebrides.

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10.20 *Heart of the Matter*. David Jessel travels with an ambulance team as it tends to the victims of picket line violence in the south Yorkshire area and also talks to the local clergy about the way they treat the violence.

ITV/LONDON

9.25 *Thames news headlines*. 9.30 *For Scotland*. Part one of the historical drama. The Sea Green Man. 9.48 *Giving and receiving instructions* in human life and computers. 10.06 *The thrill of living in the city*. 10.23 *The measurement of time*. 10.40 *Generating electricity*. 11.02 *Children preparing for an outing*. 11.19 *The production of chips*. 11.38 *The last banana* — North Sea Oil.

12.00 *Lost Bananas*. A group of animals. 12.10 *Mooncat and Co* with guest Pat Coombs. 12.30 *The Swiftons*.

1.00 *News at One*. 1.20 *Thames news*. 1.30 *Police Court*. Drama at the vineyard. Starting Jane Wymann.

2.30 *Daytime*. Sarah Kennedy chairs a studio discussion on the new divorce law. 3.00 *Take the High Road*. More intrigue among the residents of a Scottish highland estate. 3.25 *Thames news headlines*. 3.30 *Sons and Daughters*.

4.00 *Buttercup*. A repeat of the programme shown at noon. 4.15 *Tower and Haunted House*. 4.20 *Passport to Treasure*. John M. Pary visits another National Trust property — Townsend, a 300-year-old working farm in the Lake District (Oracle).

4.45 *Spooky: The Exorcism of Amy*, by Paula Milne. The story of a young girl, haunted by a ghost (r). 5.15 *Blockbusters*.

5.45 *News*. 6.00 *Thames news* with Arthur Gardner and Tina Jenkins.

6.30 *Thames Sport* presented by Steve Rider who talks to Christine Truman about her tennis comeback; plus highlights of last night's boxing and football.

7.00 *Knight Rider*. Another case for the intrepid and KITT, his indestructible automobile.

8.00 *Duty Free*. Comedy series about two married couples on holiday in Spain. This week, David is in despair when Kev, an unwelcome acquaintance, appears at the hotel.

8.30 *Hotel*. More dramas for the staff and guests of the swish San Francisco hotel — the St Gregory. Tonight a successful businessman guest meets somebody from her past who threatens to reveal all about her secret life in blue movies, while an unmarried mother arrives at the hotel with the intention of putting her son up for adoption.

9.30 *TV Eye: No Room for Sentiment*. (see Choice).

10.00 *News at Ten*.

10.15 *Hill Street Blues*. The precinct nurse is in despair following Furlio's departure but moves are afoot to have him reinstated. Meanwhile, Furlio is tempted to have a drop of alcohol for the first time in seven years.

11.30 *Crying Out Loud*. Steve Taylor and Jeni Barnett lead a studio discussion between 50 young people on the subject of compromise.

BBC 2

9.00 *Casualty*.
9.20 *Daytime* on Two: French conversation. 9.38 Part four of a five episode drama in French. 9.55 *Thinkabout*. 10.12 *Different types of paper*. 10.34 A drama documentary about the Yukon poet, Robert Service. 11.05 *The English Civil War*. 11.20 *Farming through the ages*. 11.55 *Lesson four of a swimming course* — front crawl.

12.20 *The newsworld of the Thirties*. 12.45 *For Parents and Teenagers*. 1.10 *Safety advice* from Jimmy Savile. 1.20 *Working in Germany*. 1.38 *John Carmichael in Inverness*. *For William and Culloden*. 2.00 *You and me*. For the very young. 2.15 *The music of traffic*. 2.40 *Speech*.

3.00 *Dallas*. Another episode from the last series, this one dealing with the recriminations following the Oil Barons' Ball.

3.45 *Conservative Party Conference 1984*. 5.30 *News summary* with subtitles. 5.35 *Inside Women's Magazines*. Part three of the series tracing the history of journals for women deals with the search for a successful formula for women of the Fifties.

6.00 *Film Kick* (1978) starring Jim Baker and Mascha McCourt. The first showing on British television for this warmhearted piece of sentimentality, heralding a new season of films for the family. Manny is a football coach who loses his job at an exclusive school and has to take the first one offered to him because he owes money to the mob. This turns out to be a Church school for delinquent boys. Directed by Sean S. Cunningham.

7.30 *Open Space: A Little Piece of Britain* in the Med? Francis Gomila of Gibraltar takes stock of his country and of the daily life of his fellow countrymen, finding out from them their feelings towards Britain and Spain.

8.00 *Commercial Breaks*. This week's documentary in the series about entrepreneurs around the world is on three Californians who are trying to convince the State's citizens that the best way to go after death is cremation — virtually unheard of in California.

8.30 *Do They Mean Us?* Derek Jameson discovers what foreign correspondents think about our food and why the Continentals regard us with a mixture of distrust and admiration.

9.00 *The Best of Harding*. A compilation of the best of comedian Mike Harding's routines.

9.30 *Life of an Orchestra*. The fourth and final documentary about the London Symphony Orchestra. (see Choice).

10.20 *Jack High*. The last quarter-final of the Gateway Masters Tourney.

10.50 *Newsnight*.

11.45 *Open University: Database* — Freighliner Case Study. Ends at 12.10.

12.05 *News* headlines and weather.

12.15 *News* headlines and weather.

CHANNEL 4

9.30 *Conservative 84*. Lew Gardner and Brian Shears report from Brighton on the debates of the third morning of the Conservative Party Conference. Ends at 12.30.

2.30 *Conservative 84*. Further coverage of the Conference. 5.30 *Film: Shipyard Sally* (1939) starring Greta Garbo. A musical comedy about a Glasgow pub owner who goes to London to persuade the aristocratic owner of a Glasgow shipyard to reopen his works because her customers who are now out of work cannot afford to buy a drink. Directed by Monty Banks.

7.00 *Channel Four News* with Peter Sissons. Stephen Phillips reports on the announcement of the Nobel prizewinner for literature.

7.50 *Comment*. With his view of a matter of topical importance is Ronald Payne, a writer specializing in foreign affairs.

8.00 *Scotland's Story*. The tenth episode of the history of Scotland and the Scots. Christopher Wright traces the developments under the reigns of William and Mary and Queen Anne.

8.30 *Looks Familiar*. Denis Norden and his guests, Farley Ganger, Shubby Kaye and Julia McKenzie, reminisce about the films of the thirties and the forties. Among those appearing in the clips are Denny Kaye, Ginger Rogers, Fred Astaire, the Charlie Barnet Orchestra and appearing in their first film, Cocoanuts, the Marx Brothers.

9.15 *What the Papers Say*. Journalist Russell Davies casts a critical eye over the press's coverage of the week's news.

9.30 *Play on*. By Paula Milne. Michael Elphick stars as a bored insurance loss adjuster who finds relief from his tedious occupation in amateur radio. 'Radio-wave' recognition is thrust upon him when he accidentally picks up messages from a lone yachtman. From that moment on he is the voice of the sailor to the world at large — until he loses contact.

10.35 *The Blood of the British*. Part four of Dr Cathryn Hall's series tracing the history of the British people through monuments and artefacts examines the remains of the Roman occupation.

11.05 *Little Amadeus*. Off beat comedy series about two brothers who are musical night club down by the docks.

11.35 *Alfred Hitchcock Presents*. ... Arthur, starring Laurence Harvey, Hazel Court and Patrick McNeen. The story of a New Zealand chicken farmer who marries a rather selfish Helen. He decides to kill her and after the deed is done the local police try every method to make Arthur confess to the murder. Based on a story by Arthur Williams.

12.05 *News* headlines and weather.

12.15 *News* headlines and weather.

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CHOICE

given the chance to live. You must judge for yourself whether the yardstick that is applied is worthy of a society that calls itself compassionate.

● *MORGAN'S BOY* (BBC 1, 9.25pm) makes a pessimistic start tonight, which is not surprising considering that all the characters are trying to make the best of a bad job and a signally failing. And Rick Rowe, who wrote the serial, does not make it any easier for himself by harrasing together two characters who are worlds apart: the gloomy Welsh farmer, recently bereaved, who is losing his grip on things, and his bored and jobless young nephew who has never had a grip on things. By the end of the first episode, there are hints that the

hard practicalities of life on a Welsh farm will knock some sense into the teenager and that contact with the younger generation will cause the older man to pull up his socks.

● *LIFE OF AN ORCHESTRA* (BBC 2, 9.30pm). Jenny Barradough's series about the LSO, tackles its fourth and last movement tonight and closes to mix its tempo in a most invigorating manner. There are passages of *agitato* the vendetta that Private Eye is waging against the LSO, *goccioso* (a session with spoons and sticks and hand-clapping), grave (an accumulated deficit of £250,000) and *vivace* (signing up with the same marketing organization that handles Andrei, Palmer, Sebastian Cook and Angela Ripston). This has been such an entertaining series that it has made an encore inevitable.

● *THE ARCHIVE*. John Amis browses through the BBC sound archives.

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Radio 4

On long wave, 1 denotes stereo on VHF.

5.55 Shipping Forecast. 6.00 News. 6.15 *Prayers for the Day*. 6.25 *Prayers for the Day*. 6.30 Today, including 6.30, 7.30, 8.30 News summary. 6.55, 7.55 *Weather*. 8.00, 9.00 News. 7.25, 8.25 Sport.

8.43 The Awakening of Kate Chopin (4). Read by Sarah Smith. 9.00 News. 9.05 *Locusts*. Anthony Smith, in the company of Richard Grey, explores locusts as they go on in the world in the arts, sport, science, business, food and wine, etc.

10.00 *Morning Show*. 'Over the Hill' by Margaret Evans. Read by Dylis O'Connell. 10.45 *An Act of Worship*. 11.00 News. 11.05 *Travel: Your Move or Mine*. Bill Brackdon and Tom Tiddell open the door on the housing world (r).

11.28 *Vanishing Day*. Brian McAvary tells the story of the day that eight of Lord and Lady Londonderry's servants went boating on Strangford Lough and were never seen again. 12.00 News. 12.05 *What About the Workers?* 'Equality under the law? To follow up today's earlier programme at noon, Paul Henry invites your queries and comments about discrimination in the workplace. Those taking part include Janet Hemmley, of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC), Stephen Varcoe (Barrister), Norrington conducts 1.25 *Interval* reading.

2.30 *Beethoven, Schubert* (continues). Schubert's Mass No 5 in A flat 1. Op 5. In A flat for two pianos 1. 3.50 *Youth Orchestras of the World*. Trinity College of Music. Symphonies 1 and 4 (conductor: Keefe) play music by Wagner including the overture, *Verbanished from the Kingdom of the Shades* and *Wagner's Symphony Op 21* 4.55 *News*.

5.00 *Manly for Pleasure* another of Roger Nichols's selections. 6.30 *Bandstand*. Grimpey's Colliery Band play *Holy March* (Alfred Sutherland). 6.55 *News*. 7.00 *Festival Music* 1. Making a Formal Professor. Lewis Roberts in conversation with Professor John Maynard Smith. Professor of Biology at the University of Sussex. 7.15 *News*. 7.20 *Beethoven, Schubert* (Rattle conducts). With Henry's Sax (voice). Part one. Wagner's *Six* (Alfred Sutherland). 7.30 *News*. 7.35 *Beethoven, Schubert* (Rattle conducts). With Henry's Sax (voice). Part one. Wagner's *Six* (Alfred Sutherland). 7.45 *News*. 7.50 *Beethoven, Schubert* (Rattle conducts). With Henry's Sax (voice). Part one. Wagner's *Six* (Alfred Sutherland). 8.00 *News*. 8.05 *Beethoven, Schubert* (Rattle conducts). With Henry's Sax (voice). Part one. Wagner's *Six* (Alfred Sutherland). 8.15 *News*. 8.20 *Beethoven, Schubert* (Rattle conducts). With Henry's Sax (voice). Part one. 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